



Ferris State University
TORCH
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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

WALK FOR LIFE
National mental health advocacy group Active Minds will be hosting a suicide awareness walk to spotlight and eliminate the misconceptions surrounding mental health issues.

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SEWING YOUR WILD OATS
Torch Reporter Alicia Jaimes gave her take on the old adage that people in their early 20s have to do as many crazy things as possible while they're still young.

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Walkin', rockin', fightin' cancer



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

With a fundraising goal of \$55,000, Ferris RSOs, Greek Life and Academic Programs took the floor, walking the track and taking part in mini-events spanning the 12-hour extravaganza.

Relay For Life brings hope to Wink Arena

Melanie Bale
 Interim Reporter

Friday night was alight with hope, empowerment and creativity as Ferris held its annual Relay for Life. Campus RSOs, Greek Life and Academic Programs put together teams to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

"Our overall fundraising goal is \$55,000," said President of Colleges Against Cancer and the event coordinator Catherine LoSchiavo. "We hope to reach this by the end of the night. So far, we've raised over \$20,000 and it's still continuing to increase. We also hope to have at least 1,200 participants, so we can't wait to see the turnout."

The theme for this year's Relay was "music bands." Each team added to the lightheartedness by applying a pun related to their program.

"It's a moment where we all can connect and pull through our hardships together," LoSchiavo said. "Cancer affects the lives of everyone, and it's an event where we can all celebrate the loved ones we have, remember those we've lost and fight back against the disease that's affected us all in more ways than one."

The French club had a french kissing booth, Law Enforcement had a pushup competition and Brophy and McNerney Halls had a phone charging station.

"We took the route of Chainsmokers for the band," said Ferris pre-veterinary science senior Tori Burzynski.

Their banner was a hand painted set of lungs by Alyssa Jenkins.

"We [participate] every year, but almost everyone



Tori Burzynski

in our club has had someone affected by cancer," Burzynski said. "My aunt passed away the summer before my freshman year. She had skin cancer and was diagnosed November 2012."

Along with the relay, there were mini-events held in the center of the relay every 15 minutes. The first few were personal accounts of the effects of cancer. Some were survivors who shared their story and shared stories of their family members' battle. A common theme from survivors was to "never let cancer define who you are."

Groups such as the Ferris Dance Team, Team Captains, Ferris' a cappella group The Vibrato Vibes and many others were told they could have 60 seconds for a talent show and a Q&A portion.

The Relay was held at Wink Arena from 6 p.m. Friday, March 31, to 6 a.m. Saturday, April 1.

Every group was required to have at least one member on the track at all times throughout the 12 hour event.



Devin Baxter-Hawkins

"I'm not sure. I'm going to feel it out," said Ferris game design freshman Devin Baxter-Hawkins. "I'll stay all night if I have to. My granddad had bladder cancer."

Hawkins was dressed in a koala onesie doing fun tricks for \$1 to keep participants laughing.



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Ferris College of Business student Jacob Cook got stuck for a good cause at the 2017 Ferris State University Relay for Life event.

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NEWS

“When you see something that’s not right, say something, do something and be safe about it.” - Justin Wolberg See page 4 for story

Angela Graf | News Editor | grafa1@ferris.edu

Bulldogs get turnt



Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

Held at the Big Rapids Eagle’s Club, the 2017 Turn Up the Good event cost \$12 for admission and offered a cash bar and musical entertainment lasting until the wee hours of the morning.

Kip Biby

Torch Reporter

Glow sticks were snapping last weekend as Ferris’ Music Industry Management Association (MIMA) held its annual Turn Up the Good event.

This year Freddy Todd, Jada Cicada and Vanguard performed.

Ian Strasser is a senior in the music industry management program and the executive director of the event.

“I have been working on contracts with the artists, budgeting, organizing the event in general, as well as managing a team of hardworking people that are also responsible for organizing the show,” Strasser said.

Tickets for the event were \$12 per person. Merchandise and ticket sales went back to the music industry management (MIM) program in an effort to fund future shows, guest speakers and new equipment.

“Before I came to Ferris, I had always been ready for Turn Up the Good because of my immense love for electronic music,” Strasser said. “It was something I looked forward to every year and nothing has changed about that.”

Turn Up the Good featured a cash bar, glow sticks, a light show and of course, dancing.

“I thought Turn Up the Good was a pretty fun time,” said Ferris hospitality management freshman Alex Higgs. “It was fun to have a different kind of music come to Big Rapids and to be able to experience it with some Bulldogs that enjoy the same style of music I do.”

Turn Up the Good was held 9:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1, until 1 a.m.



Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

Detroit native Freddy Todd is known for his complete lack of pre-recorded material, as well as his ability to tailor his original music to fit the mood and the audience at each event.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Whackin' it

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Morning wallop

March 23, 7:45 a.m. officers responded to a two-car accident in Lot 19.

Lunch crunch

March 23, 11 a.m. officers responded to a report of a hit and run accident in Lot 1.

Friendly rivalry

March 24, 6:10 p.m. during the Music

Takes Action event in Wink Arena, officers arrested a visiting Central Michigan University student for disorderly conduct. A Ferris student involved themselves in the arrest and was then arrested for interfering with police business.

McBusted

March 25, 3:20 a.m. officers stopped a vehicle in the McDonald's parking lot for an improper turn. The driver was found to be operating while intoxicated and the passenger was in possession of marijuana.

Swerve!

March 26, 1:40 a.m. officers stopped a vehicle on Northland Drive, south of Big Rapids, for improper lane usage. The driver was ticketed for driving on a suspended license.

Seven years bad luck

March 26, 9:20 p.m. officers responded to a report of a damaged vehicle in Lot 54. A side mirror had been broken off of a vehicle.

Whackin' it

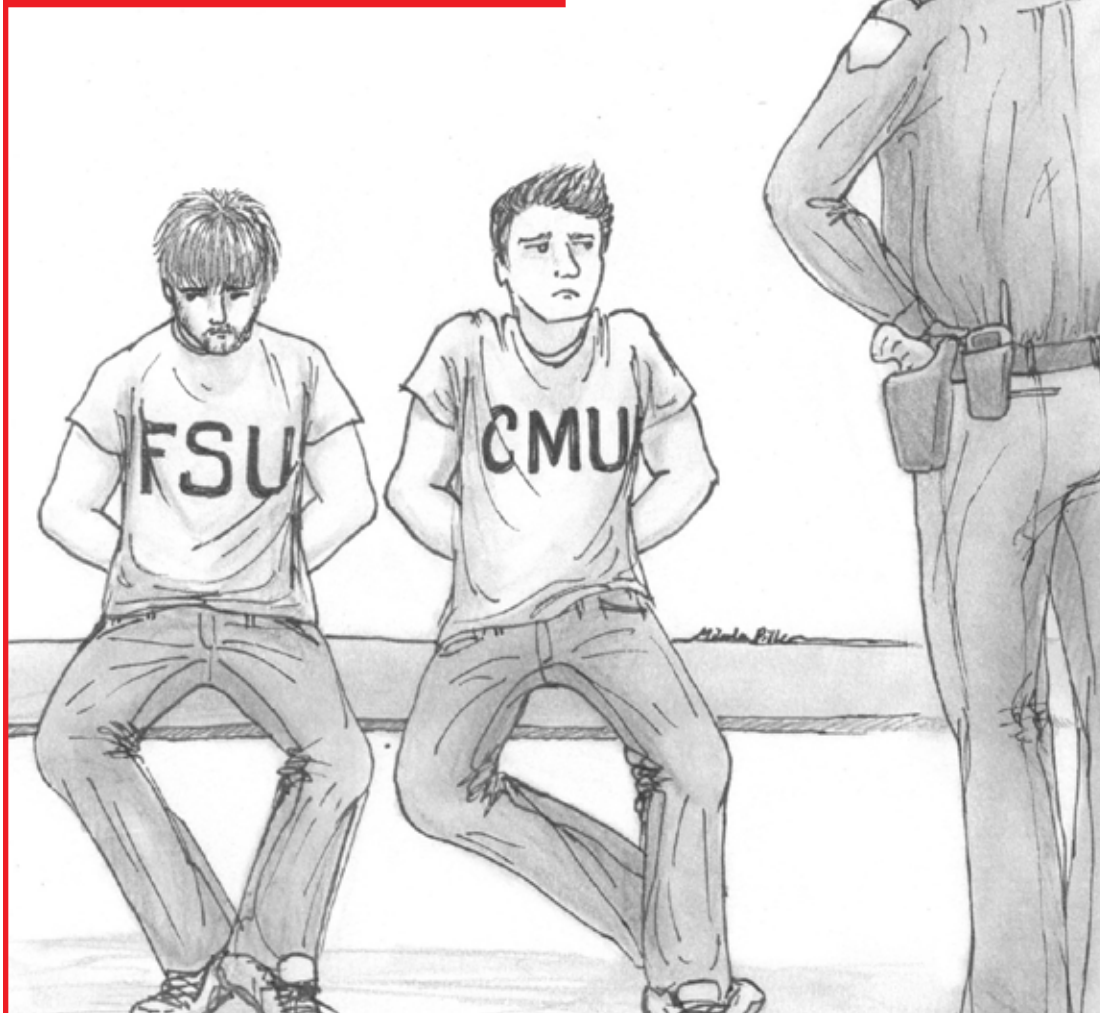
March 27, 11:30 p.m. officers investigated a report of a suspicious subject in FLITE library. A warrant was sent to the prosecutor for gross indecency as the subject was found to be watching pornography and masturbating.

The Ferris Department of Public Safety issued 398 tickets between the dates of March 22, and March 30, totaling \$5,950.

Cartoon special

"Friendly Rivalry"

Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist



NEWS BRIEFS

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Faculty Exhibit

The Ferris Fine Art Gallery, located on the second floor of the University Center, will be hosting a reception for the opening of the annual FSU/KCAD Faculty Exhibit. The exhibit showcases original work by art and design faculty from both Ferris and Kendall, and will be on display Thursday, April 6, until Saturday, May 6. The reception will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6.

Voca Lyrica

Big Rapid's premier women's choir, Voca Lyrica, will be hosting their spring concert featuring guest artists from Big Rapids High School. The show will feature selections by composer Andrea Ramsey and is scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday, April 9, in the Big Rapids High School Auditorium. Admission is free.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

In an article titled "Water wars," from the March 22 issue, a court settlement ruled that Nestle would be unable to increase the amount of groundwater pumped from their plant in Mecosta County. Nestle is now requesting to increase the amount of water pumped from a separate plant in Osceola County by 167 percent.

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



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Bracing for impact

Questions posed about feasibility of North Hall

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

With North Hall's construction nearing completion, many questions are emerging regarding how it may affect campus.

The main question—and a question that will always be a big topic on campus—is where will residents of North Hall park their cars?

"There will be a new lot next to the building for resident parking," said Ferris Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Bruce Borkovich. "This will be designated Lot 9."

The University Center parking lot will remain a commuter lot.

According to Borkovich, there are no plans to construct a through-road—a road that is closed at one end—on campus for the extra cars in Lot 9.

"Creating a through-road would encourage and increase traffic through campus from the Big Rapids area," Borkovich said. "This extra traffic would create safety concerns for our students and pedestrians."

According to Borkovich, DPS' main concern about an added road is pedestrian safety. They want to try to limit the amount of roads inside of campus to protect

pedestrians.

Fighting for a table at the Quad is already an issue on campus, and it is no doubt that with North Hall being within close walking distance, this issue will only increase.

"A planned reconfiguration to the Quad Food Court this summer will provide some additional seating in the Café," said Ferris CASP Associate Vice President Gheretta Harris. "This will not totally alleviate the seating capacity concern, but it is a step in the right direction."

According to Harris, there has not been any discussion about adding another dining facility.

However, with Miller, Taggart, Merrill and Travis Halls emptying out at the end of the semester, there has been discussion about how to make it easier for students to get to the Rock Café during meal times.

"We are looking at adding a shuttle to and from the Rock Café during the busy period," Harris said. "We are also looking at the food options at the Rock Café and possible adding a Mexican food concept."

"We are excited to bring North Hall online in the Fall of 2017," Harris said. "In addition to two living and learning communities, there will also be three classrooms available for academic programming."

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Taking back the night

Ferris students call for end to sexual violence

Marley Tucker

Torch Reporter

Ferris students and the Big Rapids community united at the annual Take Back the Night event to march against sexual assault and domestic violence.

Take Back the Night is an international march and rally that started in the 1970s as a protest and direct action against sexual violence.

"Take Back the Night, to me, is very much a community's voice saying that sexual assault isn't acceptable, and that we're going to stand together and support individuals who've experienced this," said Title IX coordinator Kevin Carmody. "As long as there is one person that experiences sexual assault, there is always something more that we can do."

Lambda Alpha Epsilon sponsored the Five-Star event, "Knowing the Signs—Take Back the Night," which featured guest speakers community service trooper Michael White and Steve Thompson. They focused on sex trafficking and campus sexual assault respectively. The room was full of faculty and students while both speakers passionately shared field experiences and statistics.

Ferris students and Big Rapids residents created signs and banners promoting rape awareness that were displayed throughout the ballroom during the presentations.

"I thought that, first, we had good attendance for this event. Both our speakers did really well talking about their specific topic areas. I think it was well received by everyone. I continue to hope and support the message of the speakers to be more than a bystander," said Ferris psychology junior Justin

Wolber, the co-founder of the Step-Up bystander intervention program on campus. "Taking that personal responsibility as students to look out for one another is really important. When you see something that's not right, say something, do something and be safe about it."



Kevin Carmody

Campus Needs You from the Title IX Office hosted a "Speak Out" event, where attendees shared their own experiences of sexual assault, gave words of support and listened to others stories.

"People need to be able to talk about it and have a safe place to talk about it, so I think that these events can really help," said Ferris social work junior Moriah van Order, an intern working at Campus Needs You.



Justin Wolber

Throughout the event, Campus Needs You held a comfy clothing drive in order to donate sweatpants and other comfortable attire to victims of rape so that they do not have to leave the hospital in scrubs or gowns. They also offered T-shirts to anyone who made a cash donation toward the Sexual Assault Nurse

Examiner Program.

To learn more information about Campus Needs You events, you can find their Facebook page @campusneedsyou.

To report an incident or ask for support in a situation, you can contact Kevin Carmody at (231) 591-2088. The WISE 24-Hour Sexual Violence Crisis Hotline can also be reached at (800) 374-9473.



Photo by: Odette Lopez | Torch Photographer

Take Back the Night participants had the opportunity to take part in a poster-making workshop prior to the actual event.

Ratifying sustainability

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

You've seen the refillable water stations, the multi-divided recycling and trash cans and now, you can get excited to see more.

The Sustainability Committee—formerly known as the Sustainability Task Force—has recently created two new subgroups; one focusing on refillable water bottle stations and the other focusing on recycling containers.

"The recycling subgroup will be focused on continued expansion towards campus wide recycling," said Ferris applied speech communication and industrial chemistry technology junior and student government representative to the Sustainability Committee Michael Williams. "Their goals are to identify locations that still need recycling, pick appropriate containers for our needs,

and creation of campus wide recycling information."

According to Williams, the water refill station groups will be identifying new locations for these stations as well as how to encourage their use. Williams also explained how the subgroups have yet to meet and, therefore, further goals and agendas have not been defined.

Although the subgroup agenda is not available, the Sustainability Committee does have a master plan that was released last year. Among the multitude of recommendations in the master plan are suggestions for including a sustainability orientation into the FSUS 100 course, supporting sustainable food systems, minimizing food waste and creating a staff professional development training opportunity.

"I just feel like, when you're taking FSUS, it's a one-credit class and it's not, it's not

prevalent—you don't really care about it," said Ferris biology sophomore Breanna Frasher. "I think that's part of the problem with sustainability in general. People get really hyped up about it for small periods of time and then they don't make it a priority in their lives to change it. So, I feel like to make it a campus-wide project, you would have to objectify it in all of these things. You would have to do something in FSUS, you would have to make a course out of it, put it in syllabi, you know, continue implementing it."

While methods can be debated, it is clear that sustainability is a valuable topic. A survey done by the Sustainability Committee in the masterplan found that 83 percent of students and 78 percent of faculty, staff and administration view sustainability as holding some level of importance to them.

The survey also found that 64 percent of students and 74 percent of faculty, staff

Green committee makes headway

and administration believe it is important to know about the sustainability actions of the university and 73 percent of students and 55 percent of faculty, staff and administration believe that understanding sustainability is crucial for their careers.

"Ultimately, on a campus like ours, I think there's a lot of ways that we could use energy in better ways," Frasher said. "Like this building [the University Center] I feel like is a great example. The windows are big so it lets in light and you don't need lights on. But the library is like a dungeon so the lights are literally on in there 24/7. I think that sustainability is important and it's going to continue to become more prevalent as non-renewable energy sources run out and we need to come up with better ways to create renewable energy. Sustainability is going to be key to that and finding ways to sustain it well."

2017 MAY COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 5, 2017 and Saturday, May 6, 2017

Ewigleben Sport Complex (Wink Arena)



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The Torchcast can be found on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel

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

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

Caps and Gowns may be purchased at the Grad Fair on March 28th, 11:00 am – 5:00pm in the University Center – Multi Purpose Rooms or starting March 28th - May 3rd, 2017 at the Ferris State University Bookstore (located in the University Center, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids MI 49307).

Tickets are required for all ceremonies. All students planning on participating in a ceremony will receive (6) six tickets. Electronic tickets will be available for students to reserve or print starting March 28, 2017. Extra tickets are not distributed and lost tickets will not be replaced. Tickets must be reserved by Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 11:59 pm.

Commencement Program – Graduates must complete their online graduation application by **Friday, February 24, 2017 for their names to appear in the Spring 2017 Commencement Programs** or their name will not appear in the Commencement Program. In order to have the program printed and back in time for the ceremonies we have to adhere to these deadlines. Contact your college's Commencement Coordinator if you have any questions.

Friday, May 5	
Time	College
3:30 pm	College of Health Professions
7:00 pm	College of Arts & Sciences College of Pharmacy Doctorate in Community College Leadership
Saturday, May 6	
Time	College
9:00 am	College of Engineering & Technology
12:30 pm	College of Business
4:00 pm	College of Education & Human Services Michigan College of Optometry

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



Election season

An election that won't cause debates

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

The election season for Ferris' Student Government has officially begun, and this year only one candidate has decided to run for the top spot.

Ferris business administration and accounting junior Patrick Maloney is the current president of Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity, a member of the Student Leadership Academic Advisory Council and the current treasurer and former representative of student government.

The McBain native chose Ferris because it is close to home and because of its size.

"I decided to run for office because I enjoy meeting new students and if I were elected president of student government, then I would have an even better reason to meet more students," Maloney said. "The most important reason for which I ran is that I love listening to students. Whether they are having a good day or a bad day, I find it important to be an outlet for people to talk to because that could be the one thing to make their day better."

One of Maloney's biggest priorities is to get more feedback from students.

"My goal—if I am elected—is to engage the student body more fully," Maloney said. "The student government is an organization that exists to serve the students. I hope to see more campus issues brought before us and for us to solve these issues. I want students and community members to feel welcome when they come to our meetings. I want the student government to continue to contribute meaningful change to our university."

Another issue that Maloney hopes to tackle is the ever-so-controversial parking at Ferris.

"Parking has been brought before the Student Government Association before and the truth is that there is little the student government pres-

ident can do for the current parking problem on campus," Maloney said. "Something I would like to do is to assemble the administrators and strategic planners for our campus and grounds and develop a three-to-five-year plan to address this issue."

While Maloney may not have the power as president to magically resolve the parking problems, he's confident that he can still make a difference.

"I would remain hopeful that, if I could gather these people with authority and expertise on the subject, that we could better plan and implement parking for students, especially commuters," Maloney said. "If I can do anything to address the parking issue, it would be to address those that have the power to change it."

So how will the election process change if there is only one candidate running?

Current Student Government President Joshua Olszewski assures students that the election process will remain, for the most part, the same.

"The only thing that will change is that instead of a presidential debate [Tuesday] April 4, Patrick will give a speech followed by a Q&A session," Olszewski said. "Students will then have the opportunity to vote for the running candidate or write in a student who they believe would be a good fit for the position. It's also important to note that students have the opportunity to vote for or write in students for senators to represent their respective colleges."

Voting begins Tuesday, April 4, and ends Monday, April 10.

More information can be found at the Ferris State University Student Government Facebook page, or by visiting fsusga.com.



Patrick Maloney



Photo by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

A Michigan State University graduate, Borkovich will be celebrating four years of service as Ferris' Department of Public Safety Director in May.

Keeping campus safe

Public safety director to celebrate four years of tough love

Kip Biby

Torch Reporter

Ferris' Director of Public Safety (DPS) Bruce Borkovich will be celebrating four years of service at Ferris this May. Looking back, Borkovich's favorite part of working at Ferris has been interacting with the students.

"[The students] are respectful, they're courteous and they're just a joy to be around," Borkovich said. "Ferris students are very unique. I think it would be hard to find students that are more focused on their careers. They know why they're here."

After attending Michigan State University, Borkovich worked as an educator at several schools before realizing his passion for law enforcement and joining the state police.

"I always liked [police work]," Borkovich said. "It's the thrill of matching wits with people breaking the law and catching them at what they do. It's exciting and challenging and I always enjoyed it."

Borkovich moved to the Big Rapids area with his

wife and daughter upon accepting the FSU DPS director position. During his time at Ferris, Borkovich has focused on student safety.

"We've headed in a direction where we are continually trying to be a service organization," Borkovich said. "We are continually trying to find ways to make this campus safer and at the same time continue to offer service. That is the balance. Ferris is a safe place but we all know that terrible things can happen anywhere. So we are constantly trying to be better prepared to deal with a terrible thing and to prevent a terrible crime."

Ferris' DPS is made up of 13 officers, and Borkovich prides himself in his officers' candor.

"The mindset isn't 'how many people can I get today?' The mindset is 'how many people can I protect today?'," Borkovich said. "We don't want people who look at police work like they are going into battle."

Borkovich offered some advice for Ferris students to encourage their success.

"Working hard will always pay off," Borkovich said. "Hard work will beat talent any day unless talent works hard."



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LIFESTYLES

“You have to consume everything that you earn. You don’t make enough to save, to accumulate capital, to invest in yourself, etc.”
- Alex Cartwright, See page 7 for story

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

Walk for Life

Active Minds hosts suicide awareness walk



Alexandra Bourne
Torch Reporter

More than 1,000 college students commit suicide every year. To raise awareness of this, Active Minds will be hosting the Walk for Life.

The event will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 8, in the multipurpose gym in the Ewigleben Sports Complex.

“[It’s] to help raise awareness and share stories of those who lost loved ones to suicide in order to increase prevention,” said Ferris applied speech communication senior and Active Minds president Victoria Hudgins. “It is an event where students come together to support one another through hard times and learn to be a friend for those in need.”

Active Minds is a national mental health advocacy group with the goal of raising awareness and eliminating negative connotations around mental health.

“In high school, one of my best friends attempted suicide twice,” said Ferris social work junior and Active Minds event manager Johanna Vander Ploeg. “I didn’t hear about it until the second time when she was pulled out of school. But I didn’t know why. No one would tell me. I went a whole month not knowing where she was. When she came back and opened up, I felt guilty that I didn’t notice sooner. That really pushes me to make sure this event is successful, because it will show warning signs that I wasn’t aware of. If I knew about them, I could have helped sooner.”

The event will feature performances by the Vibrato Vibes and the Ukulele Club, as well as a representative from Step Up who will discuss how to be an active bystander.

“We host this event to show how

everyone on campus is affected by mental health,” said Ferris elementary education sophomore and Active Minds recruitment chair Madison Baker.



Victoria Hudgins

“No matter what field you go into, there is always going to be mental health behind it. Nationally, we host it to bring awareness to the conversation of suicide and mental health to prevent it.”

Ferris counselors will be at the event for support and just in case participants want to talk if the event becomes overwhelming.



Johanna Vander Ploeg

“I’ve seen a lot of people who are close to me suffer from mental health and feel they couldn’t talk about it because of the stigma,” Baker said.

“I love seeing the difference we make.”

The event is not raising money for a certain charity due to it being shortly after Relay for Life. However, Active Minds will be accepting donations to help bring Send Silence Packing to campus, a display of 1,100 backpacks representing the 1,100 college students that die each year

by suicide.

“We’re trying to show students how important it is to never sit silently and always talk to someone when they need help,” Hudgins said.



Madison Baker

Dysfunctional society

Spreading the awareness of inequality in the U.S.

Tia-Jane' Oakes
Interim Reporter

Ferris students and faculty gathered to watch a movie that shed light on some of the huge inequalities that exists in today's society.

The screening of "Dysfunctional Societies" was hosted by program assistant Shana Schadler to spread awareness to students about the injustices in the world.

"We want everyone to know about the inequality that exists because until there is awareness it will not get corrected," Schadler said.

The film touched on topics such as wage gaps, levels of health, happiness and stress. The event was designed to spark conversation among the viewers to gain perspectives from all angles.

"In the United States, we're one of the only industrialized countries in the world where one major illness can put you living in a cardboard box," said Ferris Associate Professor of Developmental Psychology Penney Nichols-Whitehead. "It is one of the biggest drivers of poverty."

Some professors shared their thoughts on inequality. They included data statistics to support their claims. Students, on the other hand, spoke about how inequality should be fixed based on personal preferences.

"I don't think everyone should be paid equal, but they should be paid enough that they can actually afford their house, the food that they have, and be at least able to save up to do other things," said Ferris

psychology and criminal justice sophomore Jessica Erlandson.

"Economic inequality affects people in different ways," Schadler said. "Having a discussion can help reveal how people think the issue can be handled."

The discussion about "Dysfunctional Societies" was not limited to U.S. economics inequality, but also its health measures.

Nichols-Whitehead said stress can push pregnant women into labor, and if they're already under chronic high levels of stress, the probability of reaching that tipping point and entering early labor is much higher than average.

The reason for these health disadvantages such as early labor could be the result of economic inequality between rich and poor people.

"I hear a lot of people referring to this term 'the poverty trap,'" said Ferris Adjunct Economics Professor Alex Cartwright. "The idea is that you don't make enough. You have to consume everything that you earn. You don't make enough to save, to accumulate capital, to invest in yourself, to better yourself, etc. And to this I'd like to say that poverty traps are a real thing, but the actual number of people that are in a true poverty trap is few and far between."

For more informational on Dysfunctional Societies, visit the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning in FLITE 408.



Shana Schadler



Free Use Photo From Pixabay Images

Ferris advertising and integrated marketing communications sophomore Erin Patten led a presentation on what employers are looking for in college graduates, which was part of the CLACS Office's speaker series.

Preparing for the real world

CLACS offers advice for employment after college

Adrianna Walker
Torch Reporter

Soon-to-be-graduates are preparing for spring commencement, but they may also be wondering to themselves: what exactly are employers looking for in college candidates?

Luckily, the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) has compiled a list of helpful qualities that can give students a competitive edge when seeking employment.

The latest speaker series event, "Nine Things You Can Do in College to Land a Job After Graduation and Get the Skills Employers are Looking for," was presented by Ferris advertising and integrated marketing communications sophomore Erin Patten Tuesday, March 28.

Patten, whose job includes overseeing all social media for the CLACS office and presenting the opportunities the office offers, put the presentation together herself with a little influence from previous presentations.

"The process for choosing what traits employers are looking for is using online sources such as Forbes articles, professional blogs on LinkedIn and personal opinions of employers who visit during career fair," Patten said.

The presentation's objective was to share what college students can do right now to appeal to employers later, beginning with

volunteering, joining an RSO (there are more than 230 on campus) practicing leadership skills, practicing interviewing skills, as well as building a solid resumé.

Online interfaces offered through Ferris State University and the MyFSU domain such as Orgsync allow for students to find volunteer opportunities and log their hours.

Other activities that students can participate in while in college include conducting research before an interview, pursuing internships before graduating, attending educational Five-Star events and getting involved on campus.

Students seeking help with creating resúmes may contact CLACS for free advice.

The next event in the ASC speaker series, "Critical Thinking: The Importance of Asking Questions" will take place 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 11, in Science 102.



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Shimadzu lab offers research opportunity

Motivated Ferris student researches human metabolism

Nick Vander Wulp
Lifestyles Editor

Research projects into the mysteries of metabolism and disease processes are being conducted quietly at Ferris State University, tucked away in the laboratories of the Arts and Sciences Commons.

Ferris biochemistry junior Thomas Colvin has been engaged in a Shimadzu Lab project here at Ferris.

Colvin is also involved in an ongoing study looking at metabolites secreted in saliva through a mass spectrometer to map out normal metabolites in healthy individuals and abnormal metabolites associated with disease.

"The short-term goal of harnessing this data would be to correlate this data with potential diagnosis of certain diseases through just a saliva collection," Colvin said. "That's many years down the road though. Right now, we're doing the grunt work and doing as much as we can in order to properly calculate concentrations of metabolites in saliva."

Colvin said a success for the Shimadzu saliva spec-

trometry study would be to develop a control to base further experiments that may ultimately lead to some method of disease diagnosis.

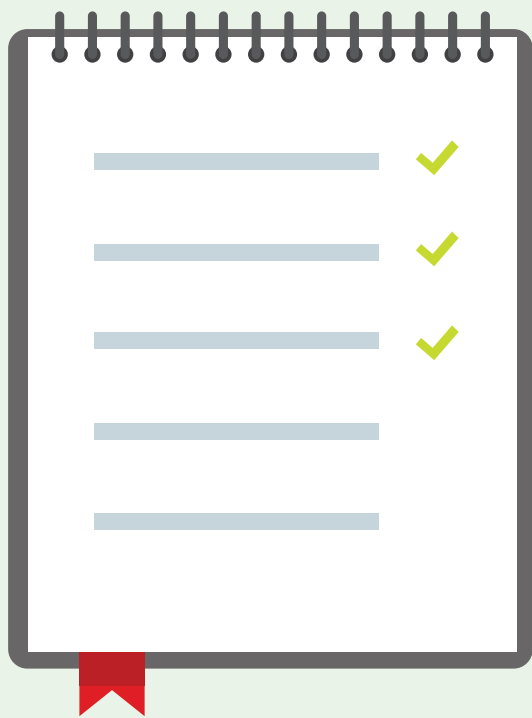
In order to isolate these metabolites, a student researcher will gather a saliva sample from a volunteer, and then run the sample through a machine called a liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LCMS).

Colvin explained that the machine does all the separation of the sample for the operator through a series of chemical reactions. The sample is then sent through a mass spectrometer, where molecules are analyzed based on their size.

"A lot more students need to throw themselves out there and try to get involved with the Shimadzu research lab," Colvin said.

According to Colvin, the learning experience students can gain by working in the Shimadzu lab is much greater than only taking part in lab during regular coursework.

"I truly feel as though if you go downstairs, you're going to challenge yourself in a way that you won't be challenged in the regular classrooms," Colvin said.



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Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Cultural cuisines

Taste buds expand at “Taste of Thailand” celebration



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Ferris students, staff, faculty and visitors wait in line to try Thai food for dinner in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center. The event was co-sponsored by the Diversity and Inclusion Office and the OMSS.

Alicia Jaimes

Torch Reporter

The smell of food filled the air as Ferris students celebrated “A Taste of Thailand” in honor of the 2017 Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration.

“A Taste of Thailand” took place at the Interdisciplinary Resource Center (IRC) Wednesday, March 29, giving students the opportunity to expand their cultural cuisine with dishes such as the Drunken Noodle, Pad See Yu and Bangkok Tango.

As students laughed with friends and music echoed through the IRC, Ferris pre-med-

icine junior and president of the Asian Student Organization Cindy Tran’s goal was accomplished.



Morgan Dodson

“I just wanted to bring something different to campus,” Tran said. “The main purpose of this event is to expose the people of Big Rapids to different kinds of Asian food.”

“A Taste of Thailand” was second in a three-part event hosted by the Asian Student Organization.

“I really don’t eat many different cultural

cuisines,” said Ferris graphic design sophomore Morgan Dodson. “I normally stick to what the American stereotypical food is, like fast-food.”

Dodson’s favorite dish was the Curry Pad Thai, a dish that was also offered at the “A Taste of Asia: Lunar Year Celebration” earlier in the year.

“I would definitely try a bit more cuisines from different countries—see what I like,” Dodson said.

Ferris social work junior Makayla Holloway was another student who was “pleasantly surprised” about Thai food, saying that it wasn’t as spicy as originally thought.

“It was really good,” Holloway said. “I wish

that there was a Thai restaurant here or that they served it at The Quad or something.”

By 8 p.m. more than 100 students had gathered in the IRC to try the variety of Thailand cuisines.

“Food is a great way to bring people together,” said Ferris biology senior and volunteer Lauren Brown.



Makayla Holloway

This event was co-sponsored by the Diversity and Inclusion Office and the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS).



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

“Taste of Thailand” included Drunken Noodle, Pad See Yu and Bangkok Tango.



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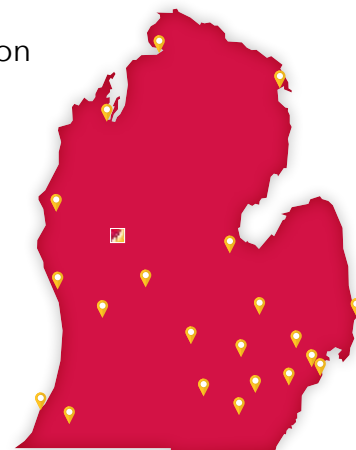
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SPORTS

“The staff, the administration and kids have really given me an opportunity to grow as a coach and challenge myself for a new path.” - Dan Rohn

See page 13 for story.

Apply now! | Sports Editor



Photo by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

Ferris junior right-side hitter Hannah Guy has earned three GLIAC championship rings with the Bulldogs since 2014. Ferris State has a combined record of 87-15 through the last three seasons.

Some really big rings

Ferris volleyball earns third GLIAC championship ring

Beau Jensen

Torch Reporter

Winning has become the norm for Ferris State volleyball, and on the heels of their third straight Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) championship, preparation has already begun for next season.

Sophomore right-side hitter Hannah Guy redshirted her first year at Ferris, giving her three Bulldog seasons to earn each consecutive Bulldog championship rings. Guy and the team just received their brand-new rings Monday, March 27.

“It’s my third one since I have been here. It’s always nice having a symbol to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year,” Guy said. “It’s also always a great way to motivate us for the next season. We want to carry

on the legacy of being such a hard-working team.”

The Bulldogs have been nothing but dominant over the course of the past three seasons, racking up an impressive 50-3 GLIAC record. Guy put a lot of importance on being a team in 2017 that will keep that legacy rolling.

“You don’t want to be the team to drop the ball and be the team who breaks the runs we have had these past few years,” Guy said. “It’s a reminder of the high standards we have as a team and it drives us to do even bigger and better things this year.”

Already working towards another season of supremacy, the Dawgs took on Div. 1 program Central Michigan in an exhibition spring game, where they defeated the Chipewas in a close match.

A big part of the team’s success during the 2016 season was freshman outside hit-

ter Allyson Cappel. Cappel dominated the court, leading her team with 520.5 total points in her first year as a collegiate athlete.

“Earning a championship ring this year has been an amazing experience,” Cappel said. “We have a lot of good girls coming in next year even though we graduated some amazing volleyball players.”

The volleyball program graduated three seniors after the 2016 season in setter/backrow specialist Jenna Way, setter Stephanie Sikorski and libero Kaley Konjarevich.

“I feel that we have the ability to do some great things this upcoming season if we put in the work,” Cappel said.

Cappel’s high hopes for the upcoming season are bolstered by a strong recruiting class. The Bulldogs are bringing in five new Bulldog recruits to learn what it takes to be a part of such a successful program.

In order to get on the same page, Cappel said that the team reads a new book every year. This year’s book focuses on the fact that talent is not enough to be a great player. With teamwork at the forefront for the program, Guy said the team has been putting in extra work as a unit to ensure a successful 2017 season.



Allyson Cappel

“I’m really looking forward to what next year has to offer because we have been working our tails off this spring and it’ll be great to see all of our hard work put into play,” Guy said.

The Bulldogs’ spring exhibition schedule will come to a close when they head to the Dunes in Indiana to take on a number of competitors Saturday, April 8.

Rough weekend for the Dawgs

Ferris softball struggles in back-to-back matchups with Wayne State and Hillsdale

Brendan Samuels

Torch Reporter

The Ferris softball team began a new month last weekend by heading to the home of the Wayne State Warriors, Saturday, April 1.

Things looked good for the Bulldogs to start Saturday, pulling out a 1-0 victory over the Warriors, with the help of some late game heroics.

No points appeared on the board through eight straight innings but in the ninth, Ferris junior infielder Lexee Summers crossed home plate on an RBI from junior pitcher Sam Bates to give the Bulldogs the only lead of the game.

Riding the high of a close victory, the Bulldogs were in for a letdown in the second part of the double-header.

The second game lasted only seven innings and ended in a 4-1 loss for the Dawgs. The third inning saw the Warriors score three unanswered runs and one trade run in the seventh with Ferris.

With eight splits on the season, the Bulldogs headed to Hillsdale in hopes of claiming their second sweep of the year.

The first score of the game Sunday, April 2, was the same as the first game of the weekend. But this time it was the Bulldogs who were held scoreless in a 1-0 loss.

Sunday was another double-header but instead of earning a split, the Bulldogs found themselves on the opposite side of a sweep, losing 10-2 after only six innings.

With the weekend ending with a 1-3 record, the Bulldogs now sit at 10-16 overall this season and will look to improve with less than a month remaining until the GLIAC tournament begins.

The chance to improve will begin 1 p.m. Saturday, April 8, with a double-header against the Tiffin Dragons.



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor

The Bulldogs triumphed over No. 18 nationally ranked Wayne State 1-0 Saturday, April 1, but lost their next three games by a combined score of 15-3.

Ferris State University Scholarship Opportunity for Students

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Alumni Association



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The Torchcast can be found on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel

Sports Shorts

By Brendan Samuels - Torch Reporter

In the spotlight

Basketball season is long gone by now, but Ferris senior guard Quentin Ruff took to the hardwood once more Wednesday, March 29.

Ruff, the lone senior on this season's squad, was selected to participate in the 2017 ADDIX Basketball Champions All-Star game. The ADDIX all-star game pieces together top-performing seniors from across West Michigan to compete in a best of the best showdown.

Ruff was among good company in the ADDIX game, though only one other NCAA Div. 2 player was selected to compete. The selection is well-deserved as Ruff ranks among the all-time leaders for three-point shooting in Ferris State history.

Bulldog bronze

The Ferris men's golf team claimed third place in the 2017 GLIAC Spring Invitational at the University Club of Kentucky in Lexington.

The Bulldogs, who shot a 568 as a team during the two-day tournament Monday, March 27, until Tuesday, March 28, placed just behind Saginaw Valley State University and Grand Valley State University.

Ferris senior Ben Cook had an outstanding outing individually, shooting a combined 142 which was good enough for third overall.

Clubs will swing again in the Midwest Regional #3 tourney Monday, April 3, in Old Hickory, Tennessee.

Movin' on up

After starting this year's campaign as No. 20 on the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Div. 2 rankings, the Ferris men's tennis team has vaulted up five spots to the No. 15 slot.

The Bulldogs have had an impressive season to this point, recording a 9-2 record and housing one of the top 20 doubles teams in the nation at the Div. 2 level with the pairing of sophomores Till von Winning and Steward Sell.

Coming off of an impressive season a year ago, the Bulldogs will look to continue their current hot start throughout the remainder of the 2017 campaign.

The great outdoors

Ferris track begins spring competition

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

The outdoor season is underway as the Ferris track and field teams competed at the Michigan State Spartan Invite.

For the Bulldogs, the indoor season is a tune-up for the "real" season, which is outdoor track. Going from the 200 to 300-meter indoor tracks to the 400-meter outdoor track is a liberating experience for senior Logan Hammer.



Logan Hammer

"We use indoor as another training season. Outdoors, you can open up and run without having to go around as many turns," Hammer said.

The Dawgs had 26 top-10 finishes with 15 and 11 for men and women respectively Saturday, April 1.

Ferris received its first outdoor action of the season against several teams throughout Midwest Michigan including Sienna Heights, Adrian and Olivette.

The top finisher for the Bulldogs was Hayden Francisco who took second in the Javelin throw with a distance of 53.04 meters. Ferris senior Gunnar Meyer placed fourth with a distance of 46.63 meters.

Ferris men performed well in many field events as

Jon Cok placed third in the high jump reaching 1.96 meters. Junior Brett Allpow placed third in discus with a distance of 46.53 and junior Ross Miller placed fourth in shot put throwing for 14.1 meters.

Zach McKenzie placed third in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:00.4. Lucas Harris and Nate Meyer placed fourth and fifth respectively in the men's 400 meters. Sprinter and football player Ja'juan Pollock placed seventh in the men's 100 meters with a time of 11.64 seconds.

The women showed out in the 5,000-meter race as Ferris placed four runners in the top six. Racheal McDonald, Kathryn Etelamaki, Emily Haynes and Natalie Perry placed second, third, fourth and sixth respectively.

Sarah Utchel placed fourth in the women's 100 and 200 meters with times of 12.71 and 26.26 respectively. Lydia Huisken placed in the women's 400-meter hurdle with a time of 1:12.77.

In the field, Reina Troxell placed second in discus with a distance of 42.52 meters as well as eighth in the shot put with a distance of 11.22 meters. Emily Paulsen and Kennedy Riebschleger placed fourth and sixth respectively in the javelin throw with distances of 23.25 meters and 22.73 meters.

Ferris will host its annual Bulldog Invitational Saturday, April 8, at Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids as the only home meet of the season.

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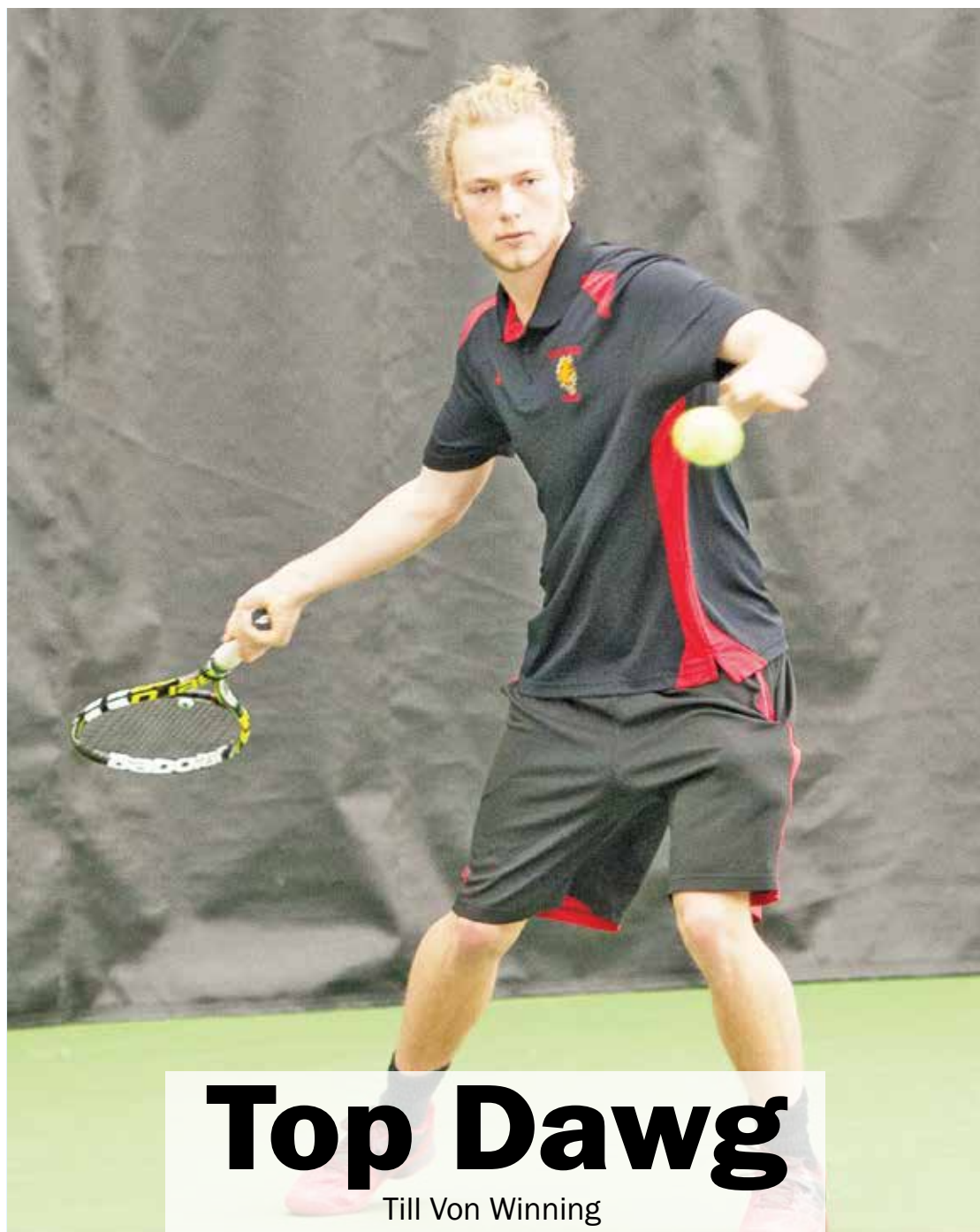
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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



Top Dawg

Till Von Winning

Photo Courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Keith Salowich

Editor in Chief

If there's one thing Ferris sophomore Till Von Winning knows, it's, well, winning.

Ferris State hit the road to the Upper Peninsula and swept Lake Superior State and Michigan Tech 9-0 Saturday, April 1, and Sunday, April 2, respectively.

The 6-foot-2 Schopfheim, Germany, native boasted a perfect record in both matches, winning his doubles matchups with fellow sophomore Bulldog Steward Sell and also claiming victory in his singles matches.

The next time the Bulldogs hit the court will be on home turf 2 p.m. Friday, April 7, against Northwood in Big Rapids. Then, Wayne State will come to town to play at Ferris 10 a.m. Sunday, April 9.

Levels to this



Photo by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

Newly promoted assistant coach Dan Rohn coached the quarterbacks and helped call plays on FSU's offense last season.

Four-time high school state championship head coach named as new full-time assistant coach for the Dawgs

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

Quarterback coach and co-play caller Dan Rohn received an expanded role as a full-time assistant coach to his 25-year friend head, coach Tony Annese.

Rohn will continue to assist in game planning, calling plays, and will serve as run-game coordinator while developing quarterbacks. Rohn will have more administration responsibility to assist Annese on day-to-day football operations. This will include scheduling and hosting clinics while assisting with the Gridiron Club.

Rohn became a Bulldog last season after a successful stint as a high school head coach when he won four state titles at West Catholic High School in Grand Rapids.

"I was ready to coach at the next level," Rohn said. "I had won four state championships at the high school level and wasn't sure there was much more I wanted to do at that level."

Rohn won nine straight conference titles in his nine-year stint at West Catholic, earning a 49-1 conference record while winning state championships in each of his last three seasons. Tasked with finding a successful program with a good fit, Rohn chose Ferris in part because of his respect for Annese and the program he built.

"I was really selective about where I was going to go and who I was going to work with and Ferris has been a great fit for me," Rohn said. "The staff, the administration and kids have really given me an opportunity to grow as a coach and challenge myself for a new path."

Annese and Rohn met each other as high school

coaches 25 years ago and have worked together at football clinics and camps ever since.

Last season, Rohn helped groom junior quarterback Reggie Bell into the pilot of a fast-paced spread offense, despite it being the first year in the program for both men. For years, that position had been manned by two-time Harlon Hill winner Jason Vander Laan. Rohn was able to transition the program from that to Bell and senior quarterback Trevor Birmingham who combined for more than 5,000 yards of total offense and 53 touchdowns in 2016 en route to the winningest season in Ferris history.

Bell suffered a torn labrum in his throwing shoulder this offseason and won't be able to throw for a few months. This leaves a roster full of young quarterbacks with little to no college experience. Redshirt freshman Travis Russell was third on the depth chart last year and saw limited action. If Bell is not completely healthy when the season comes, his name is most likely to be called.

"Travis gets to take a majority of the reps now, who had some game experience last year. It gives him an opportunity to grow and to become more confident in game situations," Rohn said. "Being able to get reps for Travis is extremely important, while at the same time you'd like Reggie to have this spring to grow. But since he's not allowed to participate physically, we need to keep him engaged mentally."

Bell has been calling signals on the sidelines and working hard in the film room this spring and will continue to do so until he is ready for physical participation. Rohn will play a crucial role for the Bulldogs this season by developing Russell and getting Bell back up to speed.

Bulldog Mania

The Torch's resident professional wrestling expert gives his picks for which Bulldogs he'd like to see in the squared circle

The ultimate thrill ride known as WrestleMania 33 took place this past Sunday, April 2, captivating an audience of sports entertainment fans from all over the globe.

At the annual event, you see faces of the future, such as the "Big Dog" Roman Reigns, the dominant up-and-comer, comparable to Ferris State's own up-and-coming "Big Dog" in Ferris State volleyball's Allyson Cappel.

You also see familiar faces such as the Undertaker, the stalwart phenom, defending his yard year after year before riding off into the sunset, much like Bulldog hockey's own Gerald Mayhew did in the 2016-17 season.

With another WrestleMania in the books, I can't help but imagine what kind of characters and matches Ferris athletes would be associated with.

Two of the greatest of all time, Ric Flair and John Cena, are tied with 16 World Title runs apiece, more than any other WWE Superstar in history. Similar to Flair and Cena, Bulldog hockey Head Coach Bob Daniels is the winningest man in his organization's history, bringing hustle, loyalty and respect to the rink every day.

Speaking of hustle, only the hardest working WWE Superstars can hit home runs like Bulldog softball's Lexi Hongisto. I'd wager that with a bat like Hongisto's, she could fair well in one of WWE's tables, ladders and chairs matches where two-handed weapons are a girl's best friend.

You can't have a Wrestle-



Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

Mania without appearances from big-time celebrities such as The Rock, Ronda Rousey or even Snoop Dogg. Similar to the Showcase of the Immortals, you never know when New Orleans Saint Jake Lampman or New York Jet Jason Vander Laan will pop up in Big Rapids.

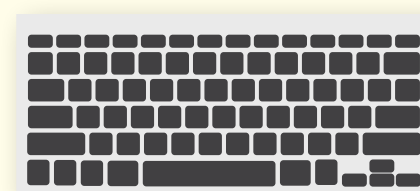
Tag-team wrestling in the WWE has seen some of the greatest brother duos team up to win tag-team gold, from The Usos to The Hardy Boyz to Kane and Undertaker. I wonder if any of those teams could take on the inseparable Bulldog hockey brother duo of Drew and Tyler Dorantes? And of course, their tag-team name would have to be The Brother Puckers.

Every year at WrestleMania, the main event consists of the greatest Superstars the company has to offer, such as Brock Lesnar, Stone Cold Steve Austin and Triple H.

In my dream, for the Ferris Wrestling Entertainment (FWE) main event, I'd love to see Andy "The Beardless Wonder" Bronkema take on Tony "All I do is Win" Annese in a steel cage match for the Bulldog National Title. A guy can dream, right?

It turns out the wrestling world and the Bulldog world aren't too far apart. Eat your vitamins and say your prayers, Dawgs, and you, too, may grow up to be a WWE Superstar one day.

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OPINIONS

“With the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) finding the first link from Legionnaire’s disease, a severe form of pneumonia, to Flint’s water supply in February of this year, we can see the implications of water that aren’t taken care of.” - Marley Tucker See below for story

Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | sachert@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

The freedom that comes with living off of campus isn’t all sunshine and rainbows. It also comes with plenty of new responsibilities and headaches.

Campus housing offers benefits such as close proximity to campus, encouraged engagement with peers through hall programs and acclimation to the college life, but it certainly doesn’t prepare you to live in an apartment.

Here are just a few things that I’ve been forced to adapt to since leasing my own place:

Budgeting for food and household supplies

Get used to endless minor expenses now that you don’t

hold a campus dining meal plan and can’t get free toilet paper in exchange for an empty roll at a residence hall’s front desk.

Kitchen sponges, paper towel, a wireless router, hand soap, condiments, produce and so much more are potentially unforeseen expenses that can gradually sap away your savings.

Getting along with roommates

There’s no resident adviser to sort out suitemate drama anymore.

Roommates in apartments either have to deal with their issues head on like adults, or passively aggressively try to stick it to one another through text or

A new lease on life

the refusal to do their share of the chores.

In either case, there’s a decent chance you’ll end up hating your cohabitants by the end of the year. Chalk it up as a win if you’re not fighting to evict each other or adding bleach to each other’s shampoo bottles within the first couple months.

Dealing with loud neighbors

The only entity enforcing quiet hours outside of residence halls is the police, so until they show up, an apartment complex can get noisy during peak partying hours.

Walls might shake with the rumblings of bass drops while partyers raise their voices to the sky with

reckless abandon. At 1 a.m. on a Thursday. And 17 hours before my organic chemistry exam.

Utilities

You know what’s great? Living with air conditioning. You know what sucks? Paying for air conditioning.

You’ll find yourself keeping a much closer eye on your use of heating and cooling, water, electricity and internet once you receive your first bill in the mail.

God forbid you put the utilities in your name. It’s no fun trying to pry everyone’s share of the utilities out of their hands when the due date rolls around.

GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions 5 p.m. every Friday
Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | Email: sachert@ferris.edu

1. Think of a topic that you feel strongly about.
2. Write out your thoughts in a coherent and respectful manner.
3. Include a headshot and some information about yourself (location, age, etc.).
4. Email your opinion to the editor for a chance to have your work published in our next issue.

Water is life

Water should be further prioritized to secure societal and environmental health



Marley Tucker
Torch Reporter



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor

Water is a commodity that is frequently taken for granted. Chances are, you think of water much like most people—it’s always there.

We take long showers, drink from plastic bottles, harvest groundwater and water our crops when they become parched. Making sure that water is available to all that need it rests on all of us as we navigate the future.

Without affordable clean water, people are living on borrowed time. Water rights have directed human history as settlements center around areas with water access. Water problems and politics aren’t just confined to third world countries. We can see the crucial role water plays right here in Big Rapids.

In May 2016, seven samples taken from across campus indicated elevated lead levels and one result had elevated copper levels. With the water fountains and offending pipes responsible for the metals removed, regular testing of water at multiple sites on campus allow for Ferris to monitor the situation.

The Muskegon River also runs through Big Rapids, and the water should be protected. It gives life to the surrounding environment, and events happening within the area bring the security of our water into question. Nestlé North American’s bid for increasing their groundwater extraction 167 percent from a well in Osceola County causes concern because of the lack of third party oversight and the sheer amount of water they want to take.

Torch Reporter Marley Tucker follows up on last week’s story: “What’s the big deal with the water?”

Residents of Flint have been living without clean water since April 2014.

With the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) finding the first link from Legionnaire’s disease, a severe form of pneumonia, to Flint’s water supply in February of this year, we can see the implications of water that isn’t taken care of.

In his bestselling novel “The Big Thirst,” reporter Charles Fishman discusses how the issue of water will play a larger role in society and examines key factors such as our water use and its economic value that will affect water usage going forward. Water is a topic that will only continue to make headlines as battle lines are drawn between big businesses and environmental advocates within Michigan.

Like the Standing Rock Sioux tribe fighting

for the health of their water supply against the Dakota Access Pipeline, we need to be proactive as well.

Asking for new legislation to be passed concerning bottled water will help keep businesses like Nestlé in check. Reforming laws that allow billions of gallons of groundwater to be extracted from Michigan for \$200 should be given focus so that water is prioritized and given more value.

It is harder to fix a water issue once it emerges, and taking so much groundwater needs further consideration on behalf of lawmakers and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). After all, bottled water is consumed more than soda, and we have to make sure that what we consume is safe and ethical from the ground up.

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A night of life, laughter and love



Travis Sacher
Opinions Editor

scene in front of me. Hundreds of excited students singing, dancing and having the time of their lives while participating in an event to raise money to fight cancer. I saw more smiling faces than I could ever have imagined seeing at Shooters on a Friday night. I was enamored with my university.

According to the National Cancer Institute, 1,685,210 new cases of cancer were diagnosed in the United States in 2016 and approximately 600,000 people will lose their battle to the deadly disease.

Cancer affects more than just the person diagnosed with the disease; it affects all of their loved ones as well. I personally experienced this firsthand myself. My father suffers from a gastrointestinal stromal tumor, a very rare form of cancer that grows in the gut of his stomach and eats away the middle of his intestines. Thankfully, he is currently stable. And while surgery and treatment has demonstrated signs of improvement, all I can do is hope and pray while my father's cancer attempts to wither him away.

It's challenging to engage busy college students in fundraiser events, especially on Friday nights. But Relay is different. It is held each year and like I alluded to earlier, cancer is unfortunately so common that too many students and community members are forced to watch a loved one battle the disease. Relay brought the Ferris community together. I fully believe students are more willing to participate in Relay than most other fundraiser events on campus.

Sixty teams used bake sales, games, merchandise, arts and crafts and other exciting ways to raise money. The music was going all night and at one point, I felt like I was back at my Bar Mitzvah dancing to classic party songs and current hits. Even at 4 a.m. eyes and smiles were wide on the faces of burnt out Ferris students. It was a beautiful sight to see, and everyone who participated or attended the event should be graciously proud of themselves.

When I walked out of the doors of Wink Arena, the sky still dark and frost covering the grass, I felt love from everyone who participated in Relay For Life.

I wanted to personally thank all of those who attended, those who made donations and especially Colleges Against Cancer for doing an outstanding job of organizing yet another successful Relay For Life at Ferris State.

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Relaying my thanks to Relay for Life

In the midst of endless bullshit, the students of Ferris donating their Friday night to raise awareness and money to fight cancer warmed my heart.

From 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Friday, March 31, the Colleges Against Cancer Registered Student Organization (RSO) at Ferris State University hosted Relay For Life at the Wink Arena and the atmosphere was touching.

First, for full disclosure, I participated in Relay with my fraternity Sigma Pi and was only able to attend the last few hours of the event.

As I walked through the Wink Arena door, dreary eyed at 3 a.m., my eyes immediately lit up at the

Sewing your wild oats

Calling all 20-something-year-olds

A lot of things drive me crazy: waking up for classes, going to classes and even doing homework for classes. But something that has been driving me especially crazy lately is this whole idea that college and your 20s in general is a time for people to let loose and do as many crazy, stupid things as possible. It's called "sewing your wild oats."

I mean, what is that and why are people painting this horrible thing in the best possible light? Just so that they can shove it down our throats while simultaneously lecturing us on the importance of a good education?

The sad thing is that I've recently heard people who talk about how they can't wait to go to college, but when I ask them why, their reasoning isn't to get a good education and hopefully build a successful life. No. Their reason is simply that they can't wait to get away from their parents and party whenever they want to.

Congratulations, you're going to be the kid who wastes thousands of dollars and changes your major a dozen times because your passion of "hardcore partying" isn't going to be an official major for at least 10 more years.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm all for letting loose occasionally. Honestly, I'm sure that going to a party or hanging out with your friends is a big part of what keeps people sane through midterms and finals.

Yet, when I hear people in class talk about how awesome a party was and in the same breath have the nerve to complain that two weeks wasn't enough time to fin-



Alicia Jaimes
Torch Reporter

ish an assignment, I feel physically sick.

Nothing drives me crazier than people who waste money because they don't know when to grow up.

We. Are. Not. In. High school. It's not considered "big news" that you slept with some guy at some party at some time and are now wearing this massive hangover as some badge of awesomeness. It's not considered "big news" that this happens to you almost every day, either.

I mean honestly, doesn't anyone remember the awkward middle school health class? The one where the teacher lectured us on the importance of not smoking and showed us pictures of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) that are now forever burned into my brain?

I think that more people need to remember that class when they go out at night so set on "sewing their wild oats."

Let's remember that parties are for Fridays or Saturdays, not Wednesdays or Mondays.

Let's remember that a long-term, committed relationship has its perks, such as the fact that there's less of a chance of catching STDs.

And for the heck of it, let's remember that attending college is a privilege and frankly, people who treat it as anything less should reconsider if this is the place that they really need to be.

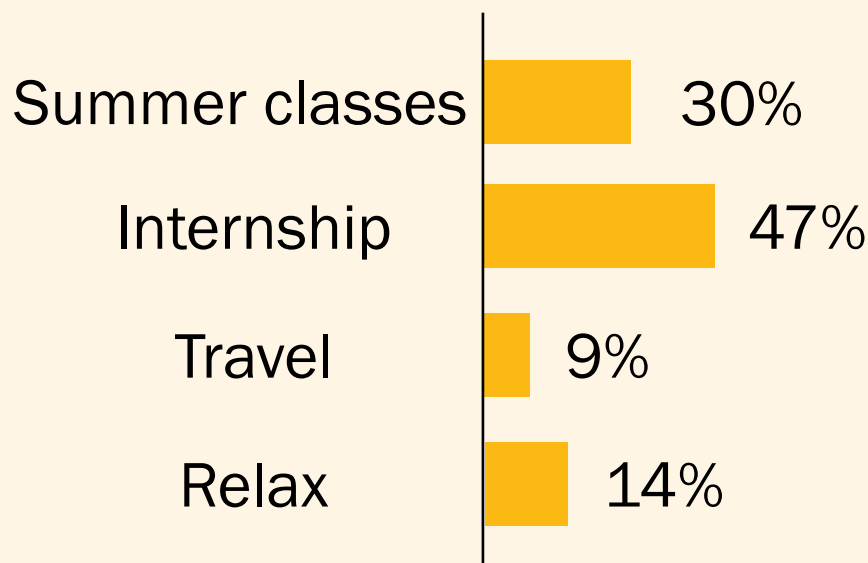


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