



**Ferris State University**  
**TORCH**  
*Truth, fairness and accuracy since 1931*

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# Addicts and epidemics

*Does Ferris have a drug problem?*

**Harley Harrison**  
*News Editor*

The opioid epidemic has been determined a public health emergency by President Trump but does the epidemic have any impact at Ferris?

From a national scope, the epidemic is quite monstrous. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 12.5 million Americans mis-used prescription opioids in 2015 and 33,091 died from an opioid overdose.

Narrowing the scope down to the mitten state doesn't bring us a sigh of relief. In fact, there are more opioid prescriptions in Michigan than there are people, which ranks Michigan 15th in the drug overdose death rate, according to an article from MLive.

Fortunately, out of the 1,275 drug overdose deaths in 2015, only one of those deaths happened in Mecosta County, according to the article.

But with the epidemic on the rise, should Bulldogs be worried?

The National Institute on Drug Abuse found that adults between ages 18 to 25 are the biggest abusers of opioids, which include prescription pain relievers, ADHD stimulants and anti-anxiety drugs.

Despite these national findings, Ferris Director of Public Safety Bruce Borkovich has not found the epidemic to severely impact Bulldogs.

"I would estimate that we handle three to four opioid cases per year on average. Recently, we arrested a person breaking into cars on campus who was also selling drugs and we recovered what we thought was packaged fentanyl patches. After being tested, they turned out to be LSD," Borkovich said. "I have not observed any recent issues with our students but I can report that marijuana use seems to be increasing on campus. The cavalier attitude that society has embraced regarding marijuana use and the concept of drug legalization has compounded the opioid epidemic."

Ferris nuclear medicine junior Hawraa Albeshar hasn't noticed a problem at Ferris.

"I read a lot about people who were addicted to it and read case studies about it but I have never met someone who's addicted to it," Albeshar said.



is a prescribed opioid. This can lead to addiction in some people.

If an addicted person can no longer get a prescription opioid legally, they sometimes turn to a street drug like heroin,"

Borkovich said. "The danger is compounded by the nature of what a drug like heroin is composed of when it comes to a destination city like Big Rapids. Virtually every drug dealer who sells heroin 'cuts' their supply to increase profits—this cut can be as harmless as protein powder or as dangerous as crushed up opioids in pill form or even fentanyl or carfentanyl. These cuts not only increase profits by maximizing volume but the "cuts" give an opioid euphoria similar to the heroin high. Obviously, this can be extremely dangerous and overdose deaths are common."

If you or anyone you know is struggling with an opioid addiction, it is important to seek medical attention immediately.

"I would encourage any student, staff member or faculty member who is struggling with an opioid addiction to first, always seek professional medical help. If you present your addiction to a medical professional, they will treat your addiction with confidentiality. Very few people can break this addiction on their own without medical help and counseling," Borkovich said.



Hawraa Albeshar

Albeshar also thinks students may be more susceptible to opioids due to the stress of college.

While the opioid epidemic may not be obvious within the Ferris community, that doesn't mean that there aren't people impacted by the problem.

"I am sure that there are students, faculty or staff on campus who are struggling with an opioid addiction. Many people have a stereotype of the recreationally drug-addicted person but this epidemic very often begins with an injury or illness where part of the medical response

## MICHIGAN STATISTICS

- OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS INCREASED BY 41% BETWEEN 2009 AND 2015
- HOSPITAL STAYS PERTAINING TO OPIOIDS INCREASED BY 21% BETWEEN 2009 AND 2014
- OPIOID AND HEROIN DEATHS NOW EXCEED THE DEATH RATE FROM GUNS AND TRAFFIC FATALITIES

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

- DRUG OVERDOSE IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH IN THE U.S. WITH 52,404 OVERDOSES IN 2015
- IN 2012, 259 MILLION PRESCRIPTIONS WERE WRITTEN FOR OPIOIDS
- FOUR IN FIVE NEW HEROIN USERS STARTED OUT MISUSING PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLERS

## WHERE TO GET HELP

- OPIOID ADDICTION HOTLINE: (855) 986-9120
- TEN SIXTEEN RECOVERY NETWORK IN BIG RAPIDS: (231) 527-2000
- SPECTRUM HEALTH BIG RAPIDS HOSPITAL: (231) 796-8691

The above information is from MLive and the American Society for Addiction Medicine

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

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# NEWS

"I would like to see better representation of every viewpoint on campus and in politics as a whole." - Kendyl Kirkland, See below for story

Harley Harrison | News Editor | harrih12@ferris.edu

## Political affairs

### Ferris lacking in diverse viewpoints

Meg Lewton  
Torch Reporter

Ferris hosts many different political events on campus but do these events cater to a variety of viewpoints?

College Republicans for Ferris hosted Michigan Senator and Republican gubernatorial candidate Patrick Colbeck in the University Center Wednesday, Nov. 29. According to the program coordinator and Ferris technical and professional communication sophomore and chair of the College Republicans of Ferris State Kendyl Kirkland, more than 115 students and community members attended the event to hear Colbeck speak and ask him questions regarding his campaign.

This is one of many republican events held at Ferris this semester. Kirkland claims the RSO intends to allow students to express their conservative views.

"We find that a lot of students feel isolated and alienated in their classrooms because professors aren't always willing or open to conservative viewpoints, so we like to be that space on campus for students to speak freely about their opinions and not feel judged," Kirkland said.

Although the College Republicans of Ferris allow conservative students to speak their opinions without judgment, Ferris doesn't have many options for liberal students to gather.

"I'm not aware of a student democrats group that is active on campus," Kirkland said. "I did hear a few weeks ago they were looking to organize but to my knowledge they haven't yet. We would love to have a group that accurately represents the liberal and democrat voices and we would love to have debates and co-events."

Some students have recognized the imbalance of political representation and would benefit from a democratic RSO.



Emily Mackinnon

"I'm not involved with any groups on campus but I have noticed there's more republican groups or more conservative groups on campus than democratic groups," Ferris political science junior Emily Mackinnon said. "We should have more representation of democratic groups and have a different conversation than what's been spoken about here on campus, and have different speakers coming and talking."

Other students don't notice politics on campus as much. Ferris plastics engineering junior Logan Kucharski said he doesn't know much about the situation but the political diversity at Ferris may make certain parties overshadow others.



Logan Kucharski

"I think we have a very diverse school as opposed to a lot of other college campuses," Kucharski said. "I think a lot of other college campuses seem to be very liberal leaning and maybe because ours is very diverse in a sense, it seems that there isn't enough. I don't know if there's a lack of it. I don't really notice it."

Kirkland hopes that more political RSOs representing different parties will rise in the future.

"I would like to see better representation of every viewpoint on campus and in politics as a whole," Kirkland said. "Politics really touch everything, so to be able to have a hand in how it affects you, I think that's very important. It's been really important to me to share my opinions and help promote candidates who want to protect my rights and protect my opinions."



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Interim Photographer  
Republican gubernatorial candidate Patrick Colbeck speaks at Ferris.

## Honorable problems

### Ferris' honors program receiving criticism

Grant Siddal  
Torch Reporter

Ferris' honors program has extremely low retention and fewer benefits than competing universities, so why doesn't Ferris invest more in honors?

The honors program at Ferris requires participants to maintain at least a 3.3 GPA, complete at least 22 credit hours of honors courses with a grade of C or higher, complete 15 hours of community service per semester, attend at least three cultural events per semester, hold a leadership position and compile multiple reports throughout their time in the program.

A number of students are criticizing the honors program requirements for being too much in addition to classes and work.

"My least favorite part about the program is the ridiculous amount of hours and events that are required. Almost all students struggle to find time in between

work, classes and studying, let alone trying to find time for community service hours, required cultural events on top of meeting a minimum GPA requirement," Ferris journalism and technical communication junior and honors student Marissa Van Alst said.

Despite these claims, Ferris honors director Peter Bradley said that changing other aspects of it would be more beneficial to students.



Peter Bradley

"As far as co-curriculars go, I have asked the student council to consider reducing the number of co-curricular requirements. I've actually pushed a couple of times to have it reduced and the students are resistant to that," Bradley said.

One of the main issues currently facing

the honors program is the lack of curriculum and lack of support from Ferris, which plays into a retention rate for the program.

Between 2006 and 2012, which was the last year that 100 percent of honors students either graduated or left the program, the retention rate for the honors program was just 32 percent due to 33 percent withdrawing from the program and another 35 percent being dismissed.

"There needs to be some sort of investment. My preference would be to get a dedicated faculty and work towards a residence hall that would be like North where we would have integrated classrooms and a curriculum. One of the reasons our curriculum is scattered is because we don't have a dedicated faculty. If we had a dedicated faculty, we could plan a curriculum that was layered and drew students through," Bradley said.

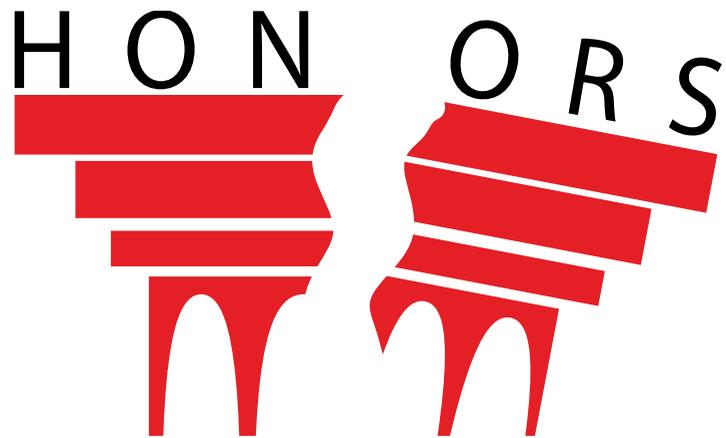
In addition to retention and support issues, Bradley says that the honors pro-

gram is lacking in benefits compared to competing universities.

"Our direct competitors at Central and Grand Valley, I think, do provide more economic and tangible benefits than we do but as far as opportunity goes, I think we're equivalent. The struggle is making the case that we need more resources for our students when our students are doing great," Bradley said.

Some of the issues of retention are currently being addressed by adjusting the academic probation period for students from starting after the first semester if their grades fall below a 3.3 GPA, to giving students their whole freshman year to establish their GPA before instituting academic probation.

As for the support from the university, Bradley says that the lack of incentive for Ferris will likely prevent significant investment in the program in the near future.



# Caught in the act

## University responds to numerous counts of academic misconduct

Grant Siddall & Megan Lewton  
Torch Reporters

As many as 80 Ferris students and student athletes are in hot water after being caught cheating in a business class.

The Office of Student Conduct is currently handling the case, according to Ferris News Services and Social Media Manager, Sandy Gholston. Gholston also added that the cheating, which took place in multiple sections of a class, is the largest ever incident

of cheating that the university is aware of.

"The university is committed to a thorough review, to due process for the students alleged to be involved, and will take the appropriate action when the review and resulting process is complete for each of the students," Gholston said.

Ferris' Academic Dishonesty Policy does not list specific punishments for cheating other than failing the course, which can be appealed by writing to the depart-

ment head. The student's appeal will be given to the instructor, who will respond in writing after which the department head will inform the parties of his or her decision.

Read the next edition of the Torch for further information on the case.



Sandy Gholston

# Gun reported



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Ferris Department of Public Safety responds to a reported gun on campus.

## Emergency alert cautions students about armed man

Torch Staff

At approximately 5:50 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, an emergency alert was sent to Ferris students with the following message:

"Report of man with gun around North Residence Hall. Secure in place."

This was followed by another alert at approximately 6:10 p.m., which said:

"Snapchat photo at 2 p.m. of male with a gun possibly on campus. No specific threat."

Ferris' Department of Public Safety was on the scene near North Hall, accompanied by Michigan State Police.

Despite the statement of "no specific threat," all campus buildings were put into lockdown and Resident Advisors were on continuous rounds in their buildings.

Ferris architecture and sustainability program senior, as well as Senior Resident Advisor in North Hall, Corey Nicols, was involved in the initial report of the gun.

"As so far as I know, at 2 p.m. there was a Snapchat taken with a resident and a guest," Nicols said. "The guest had a gun with in the picture; the screenshot was sent onto me and then from there, we contacted the hall di-

rectors on duty, RAs on duty and also DPS as well."

Nicols went on to detail what he saw in the Snap and what led him to believe it was taken in North Hall.

The Snapchat photo in question featured an African American female and an African American male reflected in what appeared to be a bathroom mirror. The male was holding a handgun and the photo was heavily filtered with a golden crown on the female and sparkles surrounding the image. The photo was also timestamped at 2 p.m. Ferris freshman and North Hall resident Brittany Wendt was shaken when she received the emergency alert.

"When I first received the text message, I was shocked and I ran to my roommate and asked if she got the emergency text," Wendt said. "We were really nervous so we closed our windows and locked our doors."

According to student employee Dylan Tantalo at Ferris dispatch,

there was no immediate or specific threat—these actions were just a precaution.

The issue of firearms on campus is addressed on page 43 of the Ferris Student Code of Conduct.

"For purposes of this policy, a firearm is defined as any weapon which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive. No individual may possess a weapon... including individuals who hold a concealed weapon permit... No individual may possess any item that could reasonably be viewed as or mistaken for a weapon, such as airsoft guns."

Furthermore, the Michigan State police defines "a dormitory or classroom of a community college, college or university" as a prohibited premises regarding gun laws.

The pistol is subject to seizure as well as the following penalties:

First offense: State Civil Infraction, \$500 fine, CPL permit suspended 6 months. Second offense: 90-day misdemeanor, \$1,000 fine, CPL permit revoked. Third and subsequent offenses: 4-year felony, \$5,000 fine, CPL permit revoked.



Corey Nicols

# The grand reveal



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Torch Photographer

Ferris social work junior Anna Rivera and Ferris communications graduate student Candy Legaria celebrate new sorority members for Sigma Lambda Gamma.

## Ferris sorority celebrates new members

Megan Lewton  
Torch Reporter

Members of the Ferris sorority Sigma Lambda Gamma spent about a month in preparation for its recent coming out performance.

Saturday, Dec. 2, in the IRC, Sigma Lambda Gamma hosted a coming out performance where the sorority revealed its two newest members, Ferris social work junior Anna Rivera and Ferris nursing junior Diana Giles. About 30 people came to watch the performance, according to Ferris social work senior and Sigma Lambda Gamma President Jayla Caver.

"The purpose of this show was basically to surprise the campus of who our girls were and have them come out," Ferris criminal justice senior and Sigma Lambda Gamma Vice President and Treasurer Nikeila Jordan said. "When we have sisters, we keep them secret until the actual event. Some sisters do not like probates or coming out shows, so they just come out but some sisters like the show. They want to recite the information. They want to surprise everyone."

Rivera and Giles cited information about the sorority and themselves, followed by a grand reveal. However, Caver said that the coming out performances

are optional.

"It just depends on if the girls want one or not," Caver said. "These girls did want one and we did it."

Caver also explained that being a part of a sorority has benefited her college experience.

"I just have more sisters around with me at all times that I don't have back at home," Caver said. "I don't really have close sisters back at home. It just gave me a sense of family style and just having someone to look up to, having someone to learn from and having someone guide me in the right direction."

Jordan said being in a sorority is bitter-sweet.

"The reason I say it's bitter-sweet is because being a sorority member is very time consuming," Jordan said. "But on the other hand, you gain great sisters. You gain basically a family away from home and that's what I really needed, was a family away from home."



Nikeila Jordan



Jayla Caver

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# Jingle all the way



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Ferris welding engineering seniors Danny Williamson and Zack Horton volunteer as bell ringers outside of Walgreens.

## Ferris welding students help raise money for the Salvation Army

Grant Siddall  
Torch Reporter

It's officially the season of giving and many Bulldogs are embracing the holiday spirit by volunteering in the community.

The Salvation Army offers consistent opportunities for students to give back to the community all year long and during the holiday season many students and student organizations choose to do so by volunteering for bell ringing.

"I think [bell ringing] is a really good way to get do-

nations for the less fortunate and it's great to help the community like that," Ferris welding engineering senior and bell ringer Danny Williamson said.

This year, the Salvation Army in Big Rapids aspires to raise \$120,000 to provide services for Mecosta, Osceola, Lake and Newaygo counties.

"If we don't meet our goal, what we have to do is go back to our programs and say 'we have to work with what we've got, what can we continue doing?' Maybe that means we have to close a community center for a certain amount of days in order to continue doing everything at least a little bit or if it's bad enough we may have to eliminate a program," Development Director of the Big Rapids Salvation Army Chris Vallette said.



Doug Bolinger

The funds that bell ringers raise through kettle donations are used for a wide variety of services including a baby pantry, after-school community center, a free music program teaching children how to play instruments, the Angel Tree program and heat and utility assistance.

"I love doing this. It's great to give back to this community," Ferris welding engineering junior and bell ringer Doug Bolinger said. "The Salvation Army is able to give to so many communities in the area and it's nice to be able to help them give back."



Danny Williamson

For those who don't want to stand outside to do bell ringing, the Salvation Army also offers other opportunities to volunteer, which include teaching children how to play instruments, tutoring, helping with arts and crafts and participating in the Angel Tree program, which provides Christmas gifts to children.

For the students that have already been giving their time, it has not gone unnoticed.

"It's absolutely awesome the relationship we've been able to continue and even develop further with Ferris State faculty and students," Salvation Army envoy Ed Hoskins said. "Ferris is so incredible in the way the promote volunteerism amongst their students and that is very much appreciated."

# Home for the holidays?

## Bulldogs hibernate in Big Rapids over break

Cora Hall  
Torch Reporter

After the hours of studying and perhaps multiple mental breakdowns in the middle of the night, exams are over and students are finally free.

While many go home for the holidays, some students are stuck in Big Rapids over break.

Ferris advertising and integrated marketing communication junior Erin Patten ad-

mits that staying in Big Rapids over break can be pretty boring but the downtime isn't too bad.

"I mainly just watched movies because there was nothing to do and everybody was gone, so it was actually kind of slow," Patten said. "But it was nice to have downtime."

Campus dining closes over break, as well as most buildings on campus with the exception of the University Center, so students in Big Rapids will have to find off-campus dining options.

"My freshman year it was tough because I didn't have the Rock or the UC or anything, so I spent a lot of money on food outside of campus, a lot of money I didn't have as a freshman," Patten said.

Patten stayed in Big Rapids over break the past two years to work at the CLACS office in the University Center, an experience she said has been great.

Another group of students who find themselves in Big Rapids over break are the basketball players. With the season in full swing and games until the week before Christmas, they only get a week at home.

"You know, you could look at it the negative way. We're the only people here, there's nothing open, there's not really a whole lot to do. But on the bright side, we get to hang out with our teammates, our freshmen get to stay with us—which is, you know, good and bad," Ferris health care systems administration sophomore Renee Sturm said.

"There's no personal space but at the same time there's no classes, so we're just hanging out."

Winter break for the basketball players consists of a lot of bonding, downtime and practice, according to Sturm.

"Since we can't eat at the Rock, basketball is required to provide us with food, so we go grocery shopping as a team and then for lunch and dinner we'll pick something and we'll go to dinner there or we'll get it delivered to the gym. We all eat together, always," Sturm said.

For students who want their break to consist of sleeping, eating and bingeing Netflix, Big Rapids is the place to stay.

# - ON THE RECORD -

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

## Entering stealth mode

**Harley Harrison**  
News Editor

### Entering stealth mode

Nov. 20, 2:01 p.m., officers received a report of breaking and entering in the Swan Building. The investigation is still ongoing.

### Thieves in the Rock

Nov. 20, 6:45 p.m., officers received a report of larceny in the Rock Cafe. The investigation is still open.

### Another break in?

Nov. 21, 3:34 a.m., officers investigated

a report of breaking and entering in the Pharmacy Building. The investigation is still ongoing.

### A warrant for Bond

Nov. 22, 1:26 p.m., officers investigated a violation of the Controlled Substances Act in Bond Hall. A warrant request was

submitted to the prosecutor's office.

### Trespass troubles

Nov. 27, 12:33 p.m., officers arrested one subject for trespassing and violating the Controlled Substances Act in Pine Valley Suites.

## WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

**Harley Harrison**  
News Editor

### Canada

Canada's Supreme Court ruled that the Yukon territorial government cannot rewrite a plan to protect a stretch of wilderness because the joint indigenous-government commission had agreed to it already. By trying to rewrite the plan, the territorial government had violated 30-year-old treaties between indigenous groups and the government.

Original story by Dan Levin, Dec. 1, 2017. *The New York Times*.

### Great Britain

Prince Harry has announced his engagement to Meghan Markle, an American actress. Markle breaks many stereotypes as she is divorced and will become the first member of the royal family to be biracial.

Original story by Sarah Lyall, Nov. 27, 2017. *The New York Times*.

### Argentina

The Argentine Navy has stopped looking for a submarine that went missing in mid-November with 44 crew members aboard. While there has not been confirmation that the crew members are dead, the rescue effort had continued far longer than the crew was likely to survive.

Original story by Daniel Politi and Ernesto Londoño, Nov. 30, 2017. *The New York Times*.

### Yemen

Diphtheria, a deadly disease that was believed to have been mostly eradicated, has been detected in Yemen, along with cholera. Officials have now reported that 22 people have died of diphtheria and almost 200 have been sickened in the past three months.

Original story by Rick Gladstone, Dec. 1, 2017. *The New York Times*.

# WANTED

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ferris State Torch

### 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR:

We are seeking an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor-in-Chief position during the 2018-19 school year. Candidates must write well, possess excellent leadership skills and be prepared to work the entire school year. Candidates should be familiar with printed and digital publishing techniques. Qualified students can receive competitive wages for up to 20 hours per week. Ability to work and train in April and August of 2018 is necessary. Prior journalism experience or training desired.

### APPLICANTS NEED TO SUBMIT:

- Resume
- One-page (typed) essay answering the following:
  - >> Why do I want to be Editor-in-Chief?
  - >> What should be the goals of a student-run newspaper?
  - >> How will I, as Editor-in-Chief, ensure that the newspaper reaches its goals?
- Copies of articles or other written work
- At least two references (recommendation letters not required)

### SEND RESUME, ESSAY AND CLIPPINGS TO:

Steve Fox at [stevenfox@ferris.edu](mailto:stevenfox@ferris.edu)

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28, 2018

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## NEWS BRIEFS

**Harley Harrison**  
News Editor

### Headphone disco

Join the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) for a silent dance party Friday, Dec. 8, from 9 to 11 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. All attendees will get to dance to music from wireless headphones and watch DJs compete. For more information, contact at [CLACS@ferris.edu](mailto:CLACS@ferris.edu).

### Voca Lyrica holiday concert

Join the Big Rapids' women's choir, Voca Lyrica, for their 17th annual holiday concert in the Big Rapids High School Auditorium Saturday, Dec. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Please contact Leah Monger at [LeahMonger@ferris.edu](mailto:LeahMonger@ferris.edu) for more information.

### Symphonic Santa Sunday

Enjoy the FSU Bands and Orchestra Holiday Concert Sunday, Dec. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Williams Auditorium. Admission is free and potential attendees can contact Richard Cohen at [RichardScottCohen@ferris.edu](mailto:RichardScottCohen@ferris.edu) for more information.

## Torch Corrections

On page 9 of the Nov. 29 issue of the Ferris State Torch, the final score of the football game against Fort Hays State was erroneously reported to be 31-7 when it was in fact 31-21.

Corrections can be submitted through email at [fsutorcheditor@gmail.com](mailto:fsutorcheditor@gmail.com) or by calling (231) 591-5978

## CREATIVE MINDS

# WANTED

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# LIFESTYLES

“To relieve my anxiety, I sometimes just decide to not take the frickin’ test.”  
- Autumn Kassab, See page 7 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

## Fostering Christmas spirit



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Interim Photographer

In the spirit of the holiday season, Ferris pharmacy student Cassandra Kolka makes a “sweet case” for foster children in the Mecosta County area.

## Packing up love for the holiday season

**Kat Merby**  
Torch Reporter

While some people think of the large red bag that Santa Claus carries on the back of his sleigh during the holiday season, there are some who see visions of trash bags instead. This is a feeling that hit close to home for some Ferris students.

Many children in the foster care system are forced to use trash bags to move their few belongings around. In hopes of creating some cheerful faces this holiday season, students were able to decorate suitcases for the event Sweet Cases, Wednesday, Nov. 29. These suitcases held a blanket, a teddy bear, a hygiene kit, a coloring book and crayons as well as any other items students wanted to include for their foster child. The cases were donated to the local Department of Human Services (DHS) and then distributed by case workers to local foster kids.

“I really appreciated when I got clothes donated to me because they are practical,” Ferris social work sophomore Jordan

Brumwell said.

When she entered the foster care system, moving around during the holidays was tough because for many kids, the holidays means being around family.

“We got a lot of donated stuff. People had fundraisers and some kids had Christmas sponsors who would buy them gifts. When I was 17, my DHS worker bought me things before college for Christmas such as a laptop,” Brumwell said.

One of her favorite holiday memories in general was being able to see other kids genuinely happy at Whaley Children’s Center around the holidays. This is where she lived for a period of time in her adolescent years.

“The holiday season has always been a rough time for me. In foster care, Christmas was often a time of sadness instead of joy and love. Most foster kids don’t get to see their real family for the holidays and if they do its maybe for an hour or two in a supervised visitation room. Many foster kids, like myself, were also separated from their siblings, so being able to see them

was something that rarely happened. The gifts were slim to none and to this day, I dread Christmas every year,” Ferris public health junior Bryanna Harlan said.

She is a scholarship recipient from Together We Rise and she has been affiliated with the group since her junior year of high school. Harlan was sure that she could get people at Ferris to want to have a Sweet Cases program. This is the second year that the Ferris student government has been hosting the event.



Maria Rogers

“When she brought up the idea, we all thought it was a wonderful idea and jumped on board,” Ferris senator for the college of business Maria Rogers said.

When Rogers came to Ferris, she knew she was going to become a part of a new community—not just the college but the Big Rapids community as well. Rogers is also the committee head for the Big Rap-

ids Community Outreach Internal Committee, which serves as a bridge between the college and community.

“I heard about this event through Maria. She is in the same organization that I am—Zeta Tau Alpha. As a group, we donated money for three bags to be decorated and put together,” Ferris social work senior Kirsten Lamb said.

Lamb works at Eagle Village and she has seen how kids come there with just a trash bag filled with their few belongings. Eagle Village is a residential housing place for high risk kids in the foster care system that is located in Hersey. She sees Sweet Cases as something to call their own and keep their possessions in and hopes that these Sweet Cases show kids that there really are people out there in the world that want to look out for them and that there is always hope.

Sweet Cases was hosted by the Student Government Association, Together We Rise and the Social Work Association.

# Testing the options

How some students relieve their test anxiety



Photo by: Lauren Jones | Interim Photographer

With exams around the corner, it's time to pull out all the study tricks to make it through another semester unscathed.

**Kat Merby**  
Torch Reporter

Among the list of things that students hate, taking tests is near the top for most. Luckily, with time, there are ways to avoid the anxiety faced at the end of the semester.

"I experience testing anxiety in classes that I struggle in," Ferris criminal justice sophomore Autumn Kassab said.

When Kassab experiences test anxiety, she feels that she for sure doesn't know the answer or that she is reading the same question over and over again. Her method to relieve this anxiety is mildly

unorthodox for some students.

"To relieve my anxiety, I sometimes just decide to not take the frickin' test," Kassab said.

Aside from skipping the test altogether, Ferris hospitality management sophomore Shaveyon Johnson finds himself rushing to finish a test to relieve the anxiety of taking the test at all. The fear of failing affects many things for students, including their confidence and unfortunately, their concentration.

"Testing anxiety makes me feel like I am stuck in my head. My confidence lowers drastically. I sometimes feel like the other people in the class are judging me for being so nervous. Makes you



Autumn Kassab

feel very down in the dumps," Ferris social work freshman Breanna Ponce said.

Before a test that she feels she will struggle with, Ponce makes sure to get in a chill vibe by listening to her favorite song and telling her friends she will be studying so that she won't get distracted. Ponce makes studying her number one priority.

For more tips and tricks to have a smooth exam week, check out the Ferris Tutoring Center on ferris.edu.

## Better than radio

One more reason to put off heading home early

**Alicia Jaimes**  
Lifestyles Editor

With Christmas on the brain and already on the radio, Ferris and Big Rapids residents alike have the opportunity to attend a live concert to get their holiday cheer.

With a group of 45 singers, Voca Lyrica is an all-women's choir dedicated to showcasing local talent as well as bringing holiday cheer in their upcoming concert.

"The rehearsals are rewarding and there's a strong sense of sisterhood and community in the group, which is very valuable to me. We work very well together and also have a lot of fun," Ferris master of social work first year Emily Garlick said.

Though this is not a Ferris-affiliated choir, Garlick has been a part of Voca Lyrica for the past seven years, allowing her to use singing for self-care, mentally and emotionally.

"I'm very excited about the upcoming concert. It's a great way to start the Christmas season. The positive energy I gain from performing inspires me to finish the semester on a high note and launches me into the joy of Christmas," Garlick said.

Garlick's favorite piece they will be singing is called "Peace on Earth" because of the message it sends its listeners to make a positive impact on the world. Some other pieces that will be sung include "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Silent Night" and Voca Lyrica alto Kris Kirchhoff's favorite piece "Up Above My Head."

Being her third year in this close-knit choir, Kirchhoff commutes 35 miles to and from rehearsals. Though the drive may seem long, Kirchhoff is rewarded by not only rehearsing the pieces so they are performance-ready but by bonding with her "singing sisters" through past experiences and emotions that they can then turn around and show in their performance.

"There is a lot of singing obviously, a lot of laughter, a lot of vulnerability letting, a lot of sharing," founding artistic director Ginny Kerwin said.

Kerwin has been directing Voca Lyrica for 17 seasons and found that, even though Voca Lyrica has had the opportunity to sing around the world, that her favorite audience will always be right here in Big Rapids.

"I adore directing this choir, not only because we create beautiful music together but because the singers are such amazing human beings who care as much about the music making as they do one another," Kerwin said.

With a goal of featuring other musical groups in their concerts, the upcoming holiday concert will also feature the Treblemakers Youth Choir, a choir sponsored by Voca Lyrica, as well as the Con Brio Voce Brass Ensemble and local singer Andy Kirby.

The Voca Lyrica holiday concert will take place Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. in the Big Rapids High School auditorium.

## REVIEW STRATEGIES

- WORK THROUGH PROBLEMS
- RECITE ALOUD
- SUMMARIZE CHAPTERS
- MAKE SELF TESTS

- MAKE STUDY GUIDES
- RECITE FROM MEMORY
- EXPLAIN MATERIAL TO SOMEONE ELSE
- OUTLINE

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# Media Minute

## Coco

The latest Pixar movie has reached theaters and ¡Ay Dios Mío!—they have outdone themselves.

The story takes place in the fictional village of Santa Cecilia, Mexico on the famous Mexican holiday, Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). 12-year-old Miguel is an aspiring musician who ends up in the Land of the Dead and must obtain his family's blessing in order to return to the real world before the end of el Día de los Muertos.

The movie throws drastic plot twists your way but it also opens the door to Mexican culture—a topic that is vastly underrepresented in Hollywood.

Not only can you see the movie in both Spanish and English but the movie was released in Mexico in time for el Día de los Muertos, almost a month before it was released in the States.

Pixar does a wonderful job of not “white-washing” or “Americanizing” the film, even when it is in English. As a Spanish major, I have every intention of seeing the movie in Spanish but even the English version had me giddy with all of its Spanish phrases.

Pixar illustrates the importance of knowing a language to better understand a culture. Throughout the movie, you will hear terminology such as, “pobrecito,” “abuelita,” “mi hijo” and so on. Even in English, all the voices have beautiful Spanish ac-



Harley Harrison  
News Editor

cents from an all Latin cast that help make transitions between the languages smooth and natural.

But language isn't the only thing Pixar takes into consideration. You can't have a movie about el Día de los Muertos without discussing Mexican culture. The movie perfectly explains the concept of the celebration and life after that.

Beyond addressing the obvious, the movie also subtly normalizes authentic Mexican culture. Too often, Hollywood represents Mexican culture with tacos, chihuahuas, sombreros, salsa and soccer and, while those aspects are a part of the culture to an extent, Coco digs much deeper.

You can see these deeper aspects of Mexican culture such as corn husk tamales, ofrendas, Frida Kahlo references, papel picado and even subtle hints of Aztec culture.

If you are interested in culture or not, you will find yourself going a ‘poco loco’ for the movie that will still bring you to tears.



Promotional image

# Bonjour Bulldogs

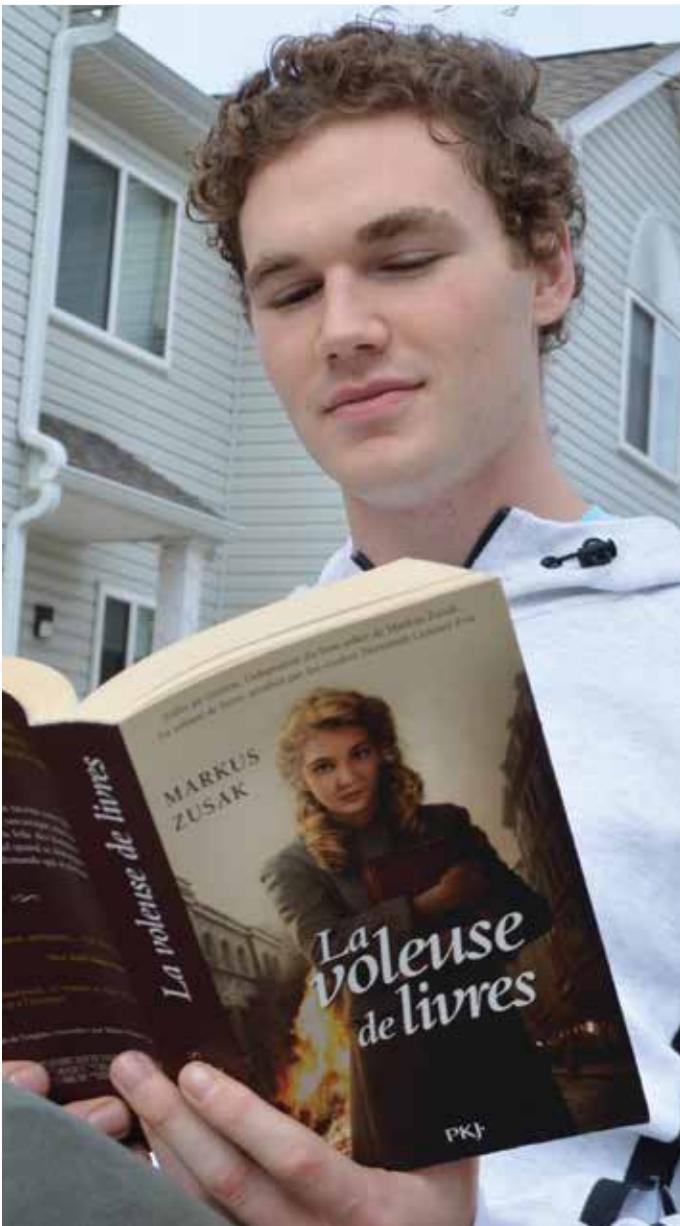


Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

French Club president Gavin Pierce welcomes all interested students to their next meeting Jan. 8.

## France comes to Ferris

**Briana Hammontree**  
Torch Reporter

The city of lights is home to a great deal of things: culture, cuisine and community. Ferris students aim to bring that same feeling to the Big Rapids area by giving students the opportunity to join the French Club.

Ferris respiratory care and allied health first year with a minor in French Lashai Watson had taken four years of French in high school before continuing her study at Ferris.

“I have had great experiences within the French Club, experiencing new restaurants and museums. I wanted to join because I wanted learn more about the culture while obtaining my minor,” Watson said.

A member of the French Club for three years, Watson has worked her way up in the group from being a general member to a Community Outreach Chair and now Vice President.

Though Watson had previous knowledge of the French culture, students who are interested in joining the French Club do not need any previous knowledge in the French language but rather a desire to learn.

“In French Club, we educate our members about the French culture and language. We do this through word of the day, a presentation of a French country, through French music, playing French games, visiting French restaurants throughout Michigan, visiting French wineries and many other avenues,” Watson said. “In addition to these things, French Club takes a trip to Chicago every semester, has an annual bonfire, plan fundraisers and have holiday parties.”

New to the French Club is Ferris actuarial science senior Morgan Wiard, who joined after talking about the French Club with its president, Ferris biology senior and French minor Gavin Pierce.

“This semester I decided to get back into French and I really just wanted to learn more about French culture and make some new friends in the process. So after I talked to Gavin about French Club, I knew that it would be a lot of fun meeting new people and it's a great way to learn more about French culture and language in a totally judgment free zone,” Wiard said.



Gavin Pierce

“We don't expect everyone to come in speaking French, it's just so long as you have interest in the French language and culture in general, then you're welcome,” Pierce said.

Pierce welcomes all who are interested in learning a second language, just as he did when he decided to teach himself French after discovering an interest in it during his time working at a French bakery.

“I think it's a really fun club. It's a really great way to get introduced to different cultures. So, one of the things I really like about the French program at Ferris—both the club and the minor—is that instead of focusing just on France, we focus on global cultures,” Pierce said.

The French Club meets every other week on Mondays at 7 p.m., with their first meeting next semester Jan. 8 in Starr room 126, with pizza being offered at standard meetings.

## LEARN SOME FRENCH

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# Donation station

## A little goes a long way

**Holly Baker**  
Torch Reporter

“We always say that a person can give three things: their time, their talent and their treasure. Time is taking time out of their day to go and volunteer, talent is their abilities and their treasure is their means that they can donate,” Ferris coordinator of Career and Volunteer centers Michele Albright said.

With the holidays rapidly approaching, students may be busy studying for finals and attending holiday parties. If time and talent is not something you can give up, there are still many ways to donate treasure.

“A lot of organizations are looking for donations around this time,” Albright said. “There’s local community clothing drives—Salvation Army is a huge one right now—and is always looking for donations of gently used clothing. The domestic violence shelter is looking for donation of items. Angels in Action is host-

ing a blanket tie drive. Students may make their own tie blankets and drop them off to the CLACS office.”

December is one of the highest needs month per year. According to the United States Census, 18.9 percent of Mecosta County individuals are below poverty level. Organizations like Project Starburst, who provide food and other items for families in need of assistance, are looking for food donations.

“We don’t notice because we’re a campus community and it’s easy to get sucked into campus. We need to realize what is going on around us in our community,” Albright said.

Students can still donate with a limited budget. A bag of ten-dollar groceries or a pile of old clothes can make a huge difference in someone’s life.

For additional ways to give back during the holiday season, contact CLACS@ferris.edu.



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Coming from conservative communities, students were able to ask personal questions about sex Thursday, Nov. 30, at the UC.

# Let’s get it on

## What you need to know about sexual health

**Briana Hammontree**  
Torch Reporter

Sex. A small word that will have a big effect on the majority of Ferris students for the rest of their lives. Unfortunately, many students are unaware of how to treat and avoid problems such as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and cancer.

To educate students about sexual health, Ferris’ School of Nursing assistant professor Dr. Bethany Brown and Ferris nursing students Brendan Smith and Madison Lake-Wickham held an event called “Let’s Get It On” Thursday, Nov. 30 at the UC.

With over 60 people in attendance, it was shown that many of those in attendance described their own previous sexual education as being “one class in high school that stressed abstinence.”

However, understanding the choices a student can make and the options a student can have was one important topic the event discussed.

“A majority of the reason is that sex is so prevalent. Just about everyone will experience sex in their life and there are a lot of diseases and health issues—even up to mental health—and it kind of covers a lot of healthcare and its just a very vast and complex topic,” Lake-Wickham said.

Only 24 states mandate a form of sexual health education, with only 13 being required to teach medically accurate information.

“I think just proper protection and staying informed and educated is important. When you don’t talk about it, just sweep it under the rug, the more it becomes a problem. So, the more people are aware, the more they know how to treat a STD or cancer. For instance, not a lot of people realize certain STDs can lead to other areas of the body getting cancer,” Smith said.

Being a certified nurse midwife, women’s health nurse practitioner and sexual health educator and counselor, Brown hopes more events such as these will be done at Ferris so that students will continue to ask questions.

“Many of Ferris’ students come from conservative communities and have not had much sexual health education. And unlike some of the other topics they will learn as students here, sexual health is something they will need for the rest of their lives. In fact, it is listed twice on Maslow’s Hierarchy of needs,” Brown said.

Students who have any questions can email Brown at [bethanybrown@ferris.edu](mailto:bethanybrown@ferris.edu). If students need healthcare services, they can go to Birkham Health Center or the Health Department in Big Rapids.



Bethany Brown

## DECEMBER EVENTS

### Holly jolly DIY

Dec. 6, 12 p.m.  
CLACS Lobby  
Hot chocolate, ornaments and cookie decorating.

### Santa sighting

Dec. 9, 12 p.m.  
Fabulous Finds Resale Shoppe  
Take a picture of your children with Santa and get 20 percent off any purchase.

### Voca Lyrica holiday concert

Dec. 9, 7 p.m.  
Big Rapids High School  
Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

### Symphonic Santa Sunday

Dec. 10, 4 p.m.  
Williams Auditorium  
Featuring performances by the FSU Symphony Band, the FSU West Central Concert Band and the FSU West Central Chamber Orchestra.

### Therapy dogs

Dec. 11, 6 p.m.  
Big Rapids Community Library  
The Ferris shuttle will make stops at the library during this event.

### Pancakes with the President

Dec. 11, 10 p.m.  
The Rock Cafe  
Free pancakes and tutoring with Ferris President David Eisler.

### December commencement

Dec. 16, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.  
Ewigleben Sports Complex Convocation Center  
For more information, go to [ferris.edu](http://ferris.edu) and click on Commencement under the Student Services tab.

### Campus closure

The university and on-campus offices, not including the Department of Public Safety, will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2.



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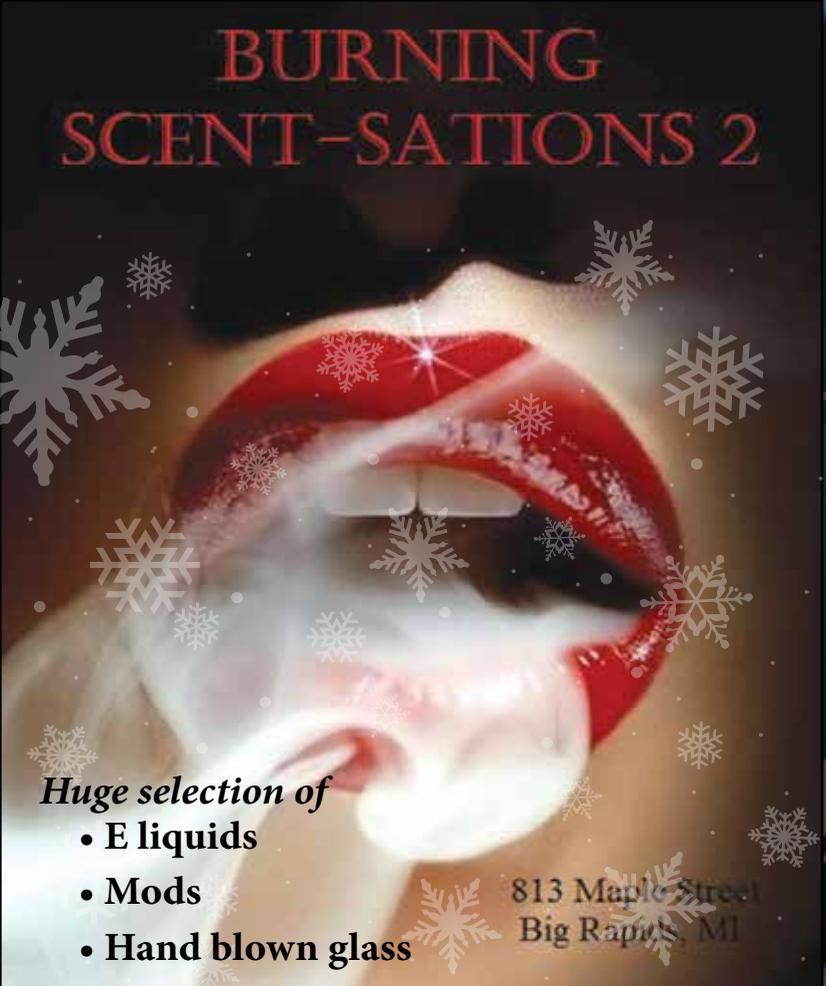
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## SPORTS

"We play with a chip on our shoulder all the time. No matter how much we win or what we win, we feel like we need to prove more."

- Peter Firlik, See page 13 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

# Harding heartbreaker



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Ferris senior slot receiver Marquel Hines reacts on the sideline as Harding clinches the 16-14 victory over the Bulldogs with a field goal as time expired.

## Ferris football ends season on 16-14 postseason loss to Harding University

**Brendan Samuels**  
Torch Reporter

A swing of the leg—that's all it took for the Harding Bison to defeat Ferris football's hope of an NCAA championship.

As the Bison kicker walked on to the field, the memory of an earlier missed field goal fresh in his mind, fans everywhere were on the edge of their seat. The ball was snapped, the kick was up and time had run out. Harding won 16-14.

Time really was the Bulldogs' worst enemy in the Saturday, Dec. 2, NCAA Midwest Super Region 3 quarterfinal matchup as the Bison controlled the clock for nearly the entire game, even rattling off a 10-minute drive in the first quarter.

"Harding deserved a victory," Head coach Tony Annese

said. "They out-coached me and their kids played really hard and so they move forward. That's the harsh reality of this game."

Despite the loss, Ferris was impressive on the defensive side of the ball. Whether it was clogging the run lanes or swatting away passes, the Bison offense had trouble moving the ball against the Dawgs.

Ferris' senior linebackers Nick Huckabay and Terrell Porter both had a great day. Huckabay recorded a team-high 20 tackles while Porter came close behind with 18.

Ferris Junior defensive lineman Zach Sieler had 13 total tackles but didn't record any sacks due in part that the Bison only attempted six passes the entire game, with all of them falling incomplete.

The offense for Ferris didn't look very sharp at all. The holes just weren't there in the run game and Harding's deep ball coverage held up just enough to not allow many

big play strikes.



Tony Annese

"We overcame a lot of adversity," Ferris sophomore Devontae Harrington said. "[Harding] brought a lot of pressure, we just couldn't make the big plays."

On Saturday, Harrington found the end zone twice, once following a 57-yard run by Jahaan Brown in the first quarter and then once more on a 10-yard scamper to the outside.

The Bulldogs finish their season with an 11-2 overall record and face big questions in the off-season with several seniors graduating, including star quarterback Reggie Bell and rumors revolving around Sieler departing for the National Football League (NFL).

# Trusting the process

## Ferris men's basketball looks for championship success again this season

**Danny Collins**  
Torch Reporter

The Ferris men's basketball team is coming off their second straight conference win on Saturday, Dec. 2, with a 91-57 victory over the Ashland Eagles.

The nationally fifth-ranked Bulldogs were led in scoring by senior guard Drew Cushingberry with a game-high 22 points and senior forward Noah King was second with 16 points.

Ferris junior center Zach Hankins added another double-double to his resume with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Ferris led by more than 34 points in the second half to help them race away with the victory.

Last season, the two teams met up in the GLIAC Tournament championship game at Wink Arena, during which the Bulldogs defeated Ashland.

Ferris is returning 10 of its 11 players from last year and the success hasn't slowed down.

The team is coming off three straight GLIAC Tourna-

ment championships and three straight National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament appearances. Last season's 28 wins by the Bulldogs is the most in the 90 years of Ferris basketball.



Peter Firlik

Ferris is 75-24 over the last three years, which is the greatest stretch in school history.

"It's important having the experience our team has, especially in conference games, because conference is a level up from non-conference and just knowing how hard you have to compete," Ferris senior forward Peter Firlik said. "Our young guys are learning a lot and quickly, so it's a good system right now."

With the victory, the team is 10-0 overall on the season and are 1-0 in GLIAC play thus far. The team is also a staggering 8-0 at Wink Arena this season.

"In the offseason we worked out very hard and tried to get to the gym as much as possible," King said. "I think

the two weeks of practice before playing in the Windsor game helped us get a feel for each other as a unit as well."

The Bulldogs are averaging 85 points per game and are shooting 50 percent from the field. Ferris is first in their conference in total scoring, second in field goal percentage and second in rebounds.

"We play with a chip on our shoulder all the time. No matter how much we win or what we win, we feel like we need to prove more," Firlik said.

The team is led in scoring with Cushingberry averaging 16 points per game and Hankins and King are second in scoring with 12.5 points per game.

Hankins leads the league with 3.2 blocks per game and Cushingberry is leading the league with 6.8 assists per game.

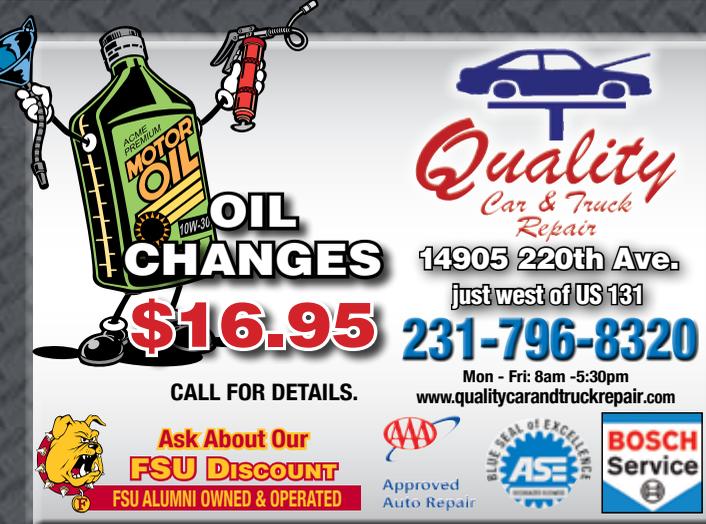
Ferris Head Coach Andy Bronkema is entering his fifth season with the Bulldogs and most recently named the

**Basketball** | see page 15

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# Coming to a close



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Senior middle hitter Ayanna Buckley is one of five seniors that the Bulldogs will lose to graduation, looking ahead to next season.

## Ferris volleyball falls short in NCAA playoffs

**Jacob Carlson**  
Torch Reporter

The Ferris volleyball season came to an end Friday, Dec. 1, as the Bulldogs pushed Lewis University to the edge during an epic matchup that lasted five sets.

The Bulldogs went into the postseason with high expectations after becoming the first team in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) history to win four consecutive tournament titles. After defeating McKendree University 3-1 the night before, the Bulldogs couldn't quite pull out the upset against a strong Lewis team on their home court in Illinois.

"I saw two really good volleyball teams battling point for point and working hard. I think we saw for sure two of the top teams in the nation. It was a great match. It was something definitely to be proud of," Head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm said.

The two teams met earlier in the season when the Bulldogs traveled to Denver to play in the Colorado Premier Tournament. Lewis swept the Bulldogs 3-0, ending the trip on a sour note for Ferris.

The Bulldogs went on to win their next 18 out of 23 games, capturing regular season and post-season tournament GLIAC titles. Meanwhile, Lewis went into the match with an impressive 32-2 record, centered around a 12-game win streak.

"I think our level of play was a lot better. Last time we played them, we played a bunch of close sets but our hitting was not very strong. I thought we did a much better job of working the ball and taking advantages of the things that the situation gives us," Brandel-Wilhelm said.

After losing a tightly contested first set, the Bulldogs were able to bounce back for two straight set wins, taking a 2-1 lead. Just 25 points shy of a win, Ferris was unable to put away the Flyers. Lewis dominated the fourth set, 25-10 and took the tie-breaking fifth set 15-11 to claim the victory.



Tia Brandel-Wilhelm

The Bulldogs were led by sophomores Allyson Cappel and Courtney Brewer, who had 19 and 18 kills respectively. Cappel also added 20 digs while senior Lauren Reminga led the team with 34 digs.

Though the season is over, the Bulldogs proved they belonged after defeating regionally ranked No. 2 McKendree easily and taking No. 1 Lewis to the very end in a closely contested battle.

"Every day we came into the gym and got a little better. Unfortunately, it fell just a little short but the things we did see were amazing," Brandel-Wilhelm said.

## Sports Shorts

**Jacob Carlson**  
Torch Reporter

### Indoor track

Both men's and women's indoor track and field teams opened their season on Friday, Dec. 1, as they battled in the Grand Valley State Early Bird event. Cody Stilwell set a new school record in weight throw with a 68-4.50.

The new mark hit the NCAA Division II national provisional qualifying mark. The two teams won't be back in action until Jan. 12, when they are set to compete in the Saginaw Valley State Classic.

### Maloney on fire

Senior forward Mitch Maloney earned Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) offensive player of the month of November as Maloney scored nine goals, tying for tops in the nation.

The month saw many stellar performances from Maloney, including a four-point night against Alabama-Huntsville that included a third period natural hat trick. Maloney leads the team with 12 goals and is tied with junior Corey Mackin for team lead in points with 15.

The Bulldogs will look to Maloney to lead the way when they travel to play Michigan Tech both Friday and Saturday night. Both puck drops are set for 7:07 p.m. at MacInnes Student Ice Arena.

### Women's basketball finding success early

The Bulldogs struggled in a 95-69 loss against Ashland on Saturday, Dec. 2, in front of a home crowd at Wink Arena but are sitting comfortably with a 6-2 record. The Bulldogs have already won one more game than their overall total from last year as the team finished 5-22 last season.

Through their first eight games last year, the team was still winless with a 0-8 record. Though Saturday's loss was a tough one, the team's still going strong. The hot start has been led by the strong effort of senior Rachel McInerney who has averaged 16.3 points per game, while adding 9.8 rebounds a game.

# Bring out the broom

*Ferris wins four straight WCHA home contests to complete the weekend sweep*

**Danny Collins**  
Torch Reporter

The Ferris men's hockey team completed a Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) sweep Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1-2 by scores of 2-0 and 5-2 over the Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Seawolves.

Ferris came into the weekend with a record of 6-9-1 overall and a 3-4-1 WCHA record. The Seawolves came into the weekend contest with a 1-7-4 record overall and a 1-2-3 record in the WCHA.

The contest on Friday, Dec. 1, featured great goalie play from both goaltenders. Bulldog sophomore goaltender Justin Kapelmaster saved 22 shots in his shutout victory.

Ferris netted their first goal at 13:49 of the second period when Hetz scored his first goal of the year. Ferris junior Corey Mackin picked up his 10th assist of the year and Ferris senior forward Andrew Dorantes picked up his seventh.

The Bulldogs would then connect

again less than three minutes later when junior forward Trevor Recktenwald rocketed a shot over the shoulder of UAA's goaltender Olivier Mantha at 16:27 of the second period. This goal was the final nail in the coffin for the Seawolves as the Bulldogs went on to win 2-0.

Kapelmaster also stopped 10 shots in the final period as he earned his first shutout of the season.

The contest on Saturday, Dec. 2, was an offensive surge for the Bulldogs as two players reached multiple goals.

Ferris redshirt sophomore forward Craig Pefley scored twice in the contest, which included the game-winner and added two assists in his four-point night. Ferris sophomore forward Taylor Fernandez provided two additional goals for the Bulldogs on the night. Ferris junior defenseman Ryker Killins added a goal and an assist to the contest.

The Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead in the contest early in the second period when Pefley scored his first goal of the game with an assist from ju-

nior defenseman Zac Tierney who earned his second assist of the year.

In the middle of the second period, the Seawolves would score twice in 32 seconds, when Austin Azurdia and Corey Renwick found the back of the net to notch the game at 2-2.

Ferris found the net at 7:21 of the third when Pefley rifled in his second goal of the game. Ferris sophomore defenseman Nate Kallen earned his seventh assist of the season as well.

Ferris then added two more additional goals from Fernandez, with the first one being at 16:03 and the second one at 18:32 of the third. The two goals would add to the Bulldogs lead and push them past the Seawolves 5-2.

Kapelmaster also stopped 27 out of 29 shots in the contest.

The Bulldogs will next be in action as they venture up to the Upper Peninsula to take on the Michigan Tech Huskies on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8-9, with both games starting at 7:07 p.m. in Houghton.



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Interim Photographer

Senior Drew Dorantes faces off with an Alaska Anchorage player.

# FERRIS FANTASY FOOTBALL

The Beaulogs have finally received a victory thanks to Wyatt Ford's fantasy picks but the win feels bittersweet as the 2017 Ferris football season has come to an end.

Ferris' 16-14 loss to Harding in the NCAA Division II National Quarterfinals marked the second and final win of the fantasy season for the Beauldogs but the score was close. A 2.5-point victory could've been a larger win for the Beauldogs if the man considered to be the G.O.A.T. would've showed up to play. Tom Brady came away with a negative half point in a victory over the Buffalo Bills. I'm not sure how that can happen but of course, the numbers don't lie, even for Brady.

Bulldog QB Reggie Bell came away with only four fantasy points in his slowest performance of the season, gaining only eight yards on the ground but throwing for 124 yards.

Davontae Harrington was the breadwinner for the Bulldogs in their quarterfinal contest with two touchdowns on the ground on just 17 rushing yards, corralling 13.5 fantasy points. His counterpart on the NFL side, Kareem Hunt, had a lackluster day with four fantasy points in a loss to the New York Jets.

The Bulldog receiving core of Malik Taylor and Brandon Walker came away with just 8.5 combined fantasy points. Their NFL opponents Marqis Lee and Dontrelle In-



Beau Jensen  
Torch Reporter

man came away with a combined 19.5 points, two sleeper picks from celebrity guest picker Wyatt Ford that did not disappoint.

Jahaan Brown came away with 7.5 points for the Bulldogs as the second highest scorer for Ferris. Cole Beasley, even in a big 38-14 win over the division rival Redskins, only came away with one fantasy point.

The big winner for my fantasy team was the Baltimore defense, putting up 16 points against the Detroit Lions offense, as much as that hurts me to say. Ford didn't get a chance at a field goal for Ferris but he was able to chip in both extra point attempts.

Thanks to all who stuck with the Beauldogs this season as they were walked all over by Ferris football and thanks to Wyatt Ford for lending his talents to my fantasy team this week.

On the bright side, with a 2-11 record we may get a shot at the first round pick in 2018, unless the Cleveland Browns have anything to say about it.

## TEAM TORCH BOX SCORE

Position	Player	Points
QB	Tom Brady	-.5
RB	Kareem Hunt	4
WR1	Marqis Lee	12
WR2	Dontrelle Inman	7.5
FLEX	Cole Beasley	1
D	Ravens	16
K	Brandon McManus	3
<b>Total:</b>		<b>43</b>

## FERRIS STATE BOX SCORE

Position	Player	Points
QB	Reggie Bell	4
RB	Davontae Harrington	13.5
WR1	Malik Taylor	5.5
WR2	Brandon Walker	3
FLEX	Jahaan Brown	7.5
D	Ferris State	5
K	Wyatt Ford	2
<b>Total:</b>		<b>40.5</b>

## Top Dawg

Allyson Cappel



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

**Brenden Samuels**  
Torch Reporter

The Bulldog volleyball season came to an end Friday, Dec. 1, but that's not to say that Ferris didn't have a few outstanding games in their postseason run. At the head of those outstanding games was sophomore outside hitter Allyson Cappel.

Cappel has been one of the most consistent performers for the Dawgs and she continued to show her raw talent when her team headed down to Illinois to attempt a run at an NCAA championship.

The Bulldogs kicked off NCAA postseason play when they took on McKendree University Thursday, Nov. 30. Cappel had a terrific game, posting a team-high 18 kills and adding on 10 digs.

Ferris was able to dispatch McKendree easily, giv-

ing up only one set in a 3-1 victory.

The real test came Friday, Dec. 1, when the Dawgs were set to take on the top-seeded Lewis University on their home court in a rematch of last year's NCAA Division II semi-final.

The teams battled back and forth but the Flyers were able to out-last the Bulldogs in a 15-11 fifth set victory to end Ferris' season on a 3-2 loss.

Cappel was nothing short of terrific in that game, as she put the team on her back to the tune of a team-high 19 kills and an impressive 20 digs.

Coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm has to be excited about the future of her Bulldogs with the way Cappel has played this season.

The best part about all of this? Cappel is just getting started.

### Basketball

Continued from page 13

HoopDirt.com National Division II Coach of the Week.

"Coach Bronkema stresses playing for each other and communicating and playing our brand of basketball," King said. "Some

of our season goals are to host the GLIAC tournament and get to the Elite Eight."

The team will look to continue their success as they get set to face off in their first of a three game away stand against the Northwood Timberwolves 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

# OPINIONS

“American folklore has romanticized the tragic story of Pocahontas.”  
- Marley Tucker - See below for story

Marley Tucker | Opinions Editor | marleyitucker@gmail.com

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## Chat with the chief Editor-in-Chief, Angela Graf

When I got to Ferris three years ago, I was an honor student. Was.

Long story short, my first semester here was rough for a lot of reasons, not the least of which was my inability to manage time.

I fell into the Netflix rut, I kept pushing back my responsibilities and honestly I ended up in some classes that I absolutely should not have been in as a first-semester freshman.

Understandably, my GPA wasn't what it should have been

when finals rolled around and I was put on academic probation from the honors college. Academic probation. The words didn't seem real.

From the time I was seven years old, I was tapped on the shoulder and put on an accelerated track. For years after that, I would be given harder work and take harder classes and win countless awards and certificates and what have you and I would graduate summa cum laude; and then I would be put on academic probation.

This world that had sucked me in and championed me for 10 plus years was telling me that I wasn't good enough and that absolutely destroyed my self-esteem.

Being an honors student had become such a pillar of my identity that when I was told I was no longer welcomed, no longer special, I felt like a part of me was being taken away.

Between the time that I was put on probation and the time that I actually left the honors college, I discovered something:

I'm still me without it.

I still love to read and volunteer and lead class discussions. I could do all of those things without the honors sticker on my forehead, and I could do them with a lot less stress too.

If you're in the honors college and you love it, tune me out. But if you're like me and two-thirds of honors students at Ferris that do leave the program, know that there is no shame in it.

To read some hard news on the Ferris honors college, see page 3.

# Cultures aren't punch lines

## Stop silencing minority voices



Marley Tucker  
Opinions Editor

November was Native American Heritage month. In that month, a number of things happened to Indigenous people and many of them were unkind.

The one-year anniversary of violent confrontations between officers and protesters against the Dakota Access Pipeline near the Standing Rock Sioux reservation came and went, with water protectors still facing criminal charges today.

To compound on that, the state of Nebraska announced its approval of the Keystone XL pipeline along a modified route. A total of 210,000 gallons of oil leaked from the Keystone Pipeline in South Dakota.

I hate the phrase "I told you so" but it seems rather apt in this case.

In addition, President Donald Trump made a quip against Senator Elizabeth Warren, referring to her as "Pocahontas" during an event honoring Native American veterans at the White House. Another thing I found almost ironic during the event was that Trump was standing in front of a painting of President Andrew Jackson, who signed the Indian Removal Act, when he did this.

This is deeply upsetting and the joke is using a historic Indigenous woman's name as an insult, which is unacceptable.

American folklore has romanticized the tragic story of Pocahontas. Her real name was Matoaka and she was only a young child when Jamestown was settled. She was held hostage for over a year by colonists and forced to marry an older man. She eventually died in England and never returned to her family. Disney doesn't tell you that. We need to acknowledge this.

This erasure is extremely harmful, especially to Indigenous women. According to the National Institute of Justice, four out of five American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime. We have to stop minimizing minority narratives and instead give them a platform to let their voices be heard.

According to the Native American



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

President Donald Trump is facing criticism for his remark about Senator Warren being "Pocahontas."

Journalists Association and National Congress of American Indians, "When the president uses the name of Pocahontas as a pejorative with the intent to insult, it becomes a racial slur."

Heritage months are extremely important in that they allow us to acknowledge the history, sacrifices and contributions of people who make up the fabric of our nation.

As the vice president of Ferris' Circle of Tribal Nations RSO, I met many people in the last month who celebrate their tribal

heritage and educate others about struggles that aren't traditionally covered in the news media. From Standing Rock to the White House, we should not stand for the abuse of any people, no matter where or when it happens.

So many see Indigenous people as a relic of the past but that could not be further from the truth. As survivors of genocide and racism, we must celebrate the strength of Native stories even after Native American Heritage month is over.

# Don't tread on my major

Or at least @ me next time



Cora Hall  
Torch Reporter

I'm not wired for science or math. I get giddy when I get my papers back in English classes all marked up for me to correct.

No, I'm not pre-med, pre-op, pre-pharm or pre-anything else under the sun. No, I most likely will not make a boat-load of money with my career.

Every once in a while, after the words "I'm a journalism major" leave my mouth, I get the forced response of "oh, that's cool," when I can see what they're really thinking is that I took the easy route.

Let me be frank—if you look down on anyone's major or their career choice, you're an awful person. Making someone feel bad about the things they enjoy doing is probably one of the worst things you can do.

Journalism isn't always easy. Reporters have so much freedom that it's a blessing and a curse. You get to choose what your audience reads, what viewpoint they read it from and what side they get to see. That's a hell of a job and those decisions aren't always easy, especially when you look at the lack of quality in what is being published at some news outlets nowadays.

Journalists get attacked for their way of life but our job is essential to keep those in power accountable and we work around the clock to give you news updates as fast as possible.

And then there's the actual writing component added into the mix—but that's the easy part, at least to me.

As a reporter, you have to be flexible. If a story isn't developing like you wanted or you aren't getting the quotes you need, you have to be able to adapt. That's what I like about it. It's not just writing—it's creatively solving problems and putting pieces together to add to the narrative.

Finally, after all your hard work, you come up with something you're excited to see in print. Then either virtually no one reads it or you get criticized for it. People don't consider the work we do behind the scenes.

Don't tell me there isn't a need for reporters. The demand isn't as high as other majors but until robots replace the human population, we're still going to need good reporters to keep everyone informed. Show me the same respect I have for you the next time you hear me say I'm studying journalism.

# #Goals

Ditch New Year resolutions for good

This year has been a whirlwind of madness and with the holiday season upon us, it's time to follow those traditions we know and love.



Abbey Good  
Multimedia Editor

Resolutions are one of those beloved traditions. It's an easy enough thing to do: you think of a list and immediately turn to social media to announce your goals to the world. You follow them for a week, maybe two or even a month if you're the committed type. But then, mid-January, when your muscles are sore and you're craving cake, it's like that list you made never existed in the first place.

I used to be this person and I'd get so frustrated with myself for not being able to keep the promises that I made to myself on New Year's Day. I would wonder why I couldn't be the person I wanted to be and why this whole resolution thing wasn't working for me.

One day, I looked at the list of goals I had set. The first was to get fit, which is probably at the top of most people's list in some form. I also wanted to improve my grades, relationships and take more time for myself.

This list was a good start but I realized that in order to achieve them, I would need a plan. That's when I learned about goal setting and my view on resolutions completely changed.

Goal setting isn't just making a list and leaving it on the fridge. Goal setting is learning how to make realistic, attainable goals for yourself that have a start and finish. It's about forgiving yourself when you fall off the bandwagon and knowing it's okay to eat that cake and then recommit.

Your goals need to be backed by a plan and you need to consistently do them until they become part of your routine. Taking your big goals and breaking them down into a plan is the only way to make your resolutions work for you.

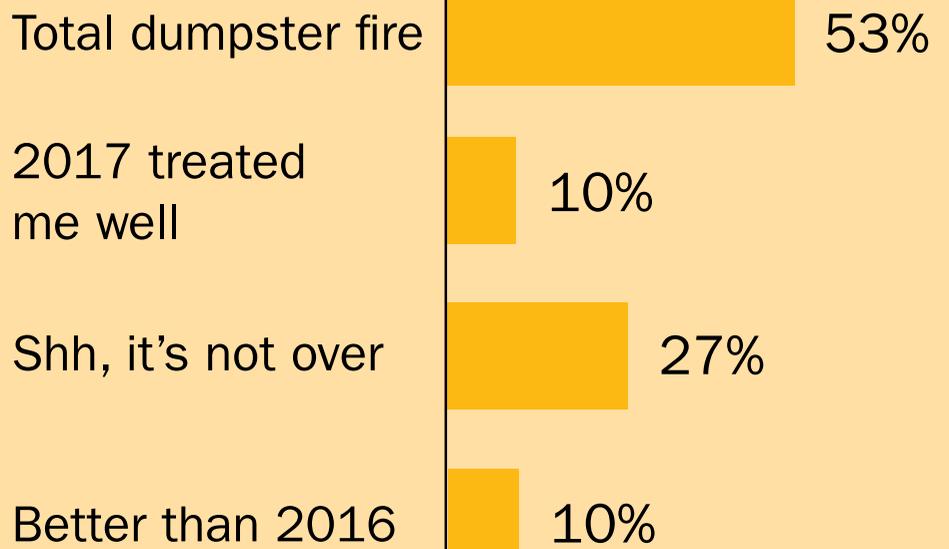
So this year, when you sit down and write your list, think about more than just the overall goal and you'll be well on your way to an amazing 2018.

Don't get caught up in the holiday haze and get mad at yourself when you can't magically change everything overnight. You can do this.

## TORCH POLL RESULTS



How do you feel this year went overall?



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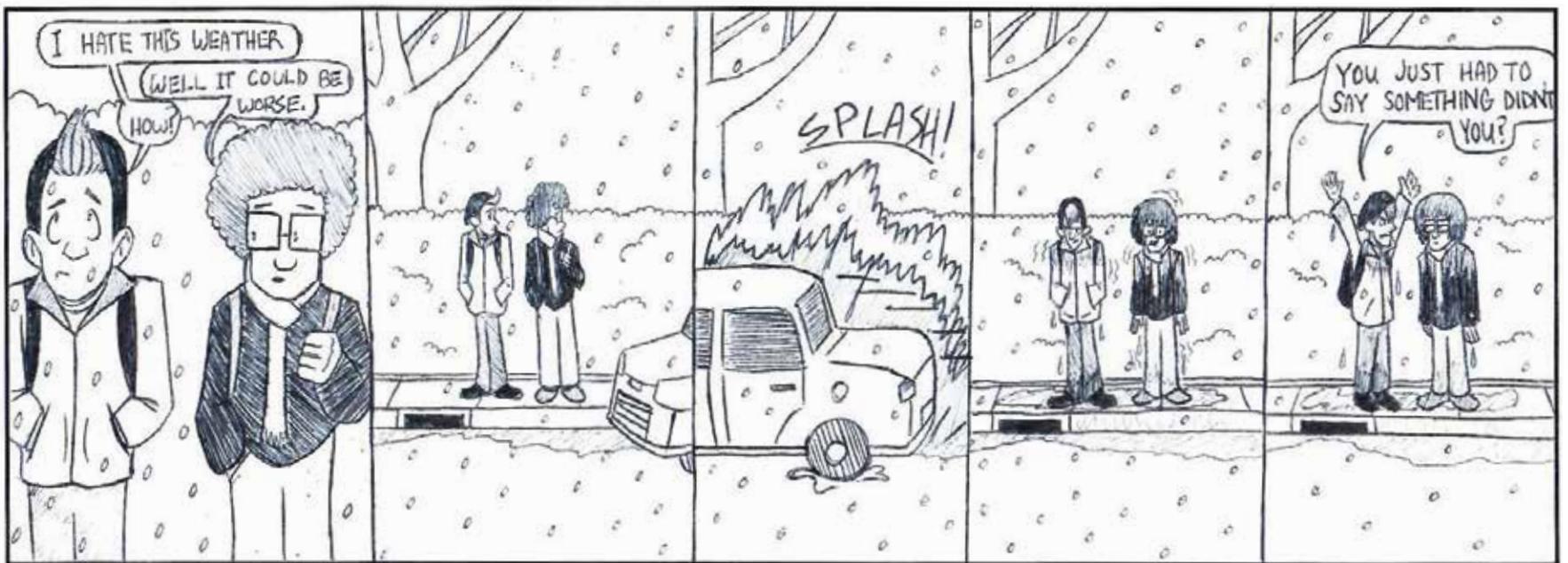
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Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

# Privileged Parking

*We shouldn't have to pay for meters if we have parking permits*

Commuters at Ferris should not have to put money in a meter when they're still parking in a commuter lot. You may be thinking, "everyone else has to pay for a meter, so why should commuters get the luxury of not paying for one?"

Think about this: whether you're a commuter or a student resident, how would you feel if there were no spots left in the parking lot except for meters? I can imagine that you'd be pretty mad because I know I would be.

I have a friend who is a commuter and occasionally has trouble finding a parking spot, which is what pushed me to write this opinion.

A few weeks ago, she was running late for class. Naturally, she parked in a commuter lot but the only spots left were at meters. She assumed she didn't need to pay for the meter because she paid for the parking permit and she was in an appropriate lot. When she got back to her car after class, a bright yellow envelope was on her windshield. She received what all humans loathe: a good ol' ticket.

When she told me this, my blood began to boil. If she paid for a parking permit, why should she have to spend more on parking? Is Ferris really that desperate for money?



Lauren Jones  
Interim Photographer

Students' bank accounts are empty due to tuition, and now their pockets have to be empty too?

Students need parking permits, whether they live on or off campus. This is expensive already, let alone putting money in a meter as well. Putting in a quarter per 30-minute slot doesn't seem like a big deal but it can add up quickly. I'm not a commuter but I did have to purchase a \$100 parking permit just like any other student at Ferris and I know enough about spots filling up rapidly. I'm not saying that meters shouldn't exist. I just don't think it's fair to pay for a parking permit, park in the correct lot and still have to spend money just to have your car sit somewhere. We all have someplace to be and unfortunately "available" spillover parking is nowhere near as convenient as advertised.

Ferris has enough money already. The least the university can do is let commuters park at meters for free, as long as they're parked in a commuter lot.



Torch file photo

If you get a parking ticket, you're going to have a bad time.

## GOT AN OPINION?

### HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.  
Angela Graf | Editor-in-Chief | Email: [grafa1@ferris.edu](mailto:grafa1@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!



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