

Ferris State University



TORCH

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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

HOW TO AVOID A F-CKBOY

News editor Harley Harrison explains how to avoid resident f-ck-boys across campus in 10 steps.

OPINIONS | PAGE 6

YOU ARE LOVELY

Author Noley Reid will be coming to campus to talk about her latest novel "Pretend We are Lovely."

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 14

Finding that spark

Ferris hockey hopes to finish strong in final stretch of regular season



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Freshman forward Marshall Moise battles for the puck with two Michigan Tech. Huskies. Ferris hockey picked up a much needed sweep over the weekend to improve their overall record to 12-17-1.

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

Just when you thought the Ferris hockey team was all but finished, the team dominated the Michigan Technological University (MTU) Huskies Friday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Jan. 27, to earn their first sweep since early December.

January was a tough month for Ferris. Heading into the matchup with the Huskies, the Bulldogs were losers of eight of their last nine games with defensive woes, offensive droughts and consistency issues in the net plaguing them.

"We came in with not a lot of confidence. Obviously, we've been struggling, so to get a sweep, the guys should come away with a lot of confidence given the strength of

the opponent we played," Head Coach Bob Daniels said.

After being swept twice on home ice at the hands of Bowling Green State Jan. 7-9, and Bemidji State Jan. 19-20, even a playoff spot wasn't a given. Though the Bulldogs looked good enough to win any of those games, finding a full 60-minute effort was few and far in between but the locker room stuck together and willed their way to an impressive effort over the Huskies.

"During that stretch we played a lot of good hockey. Our biggest problem was consistency. It's not easy being in that locker room when things aren't going well. It's tough for them to hold together and I thought they did a really good job of that," Daniels said.

The team certainly did hold together as they showed what they are capable of with the sweep against MTU. Putting the losses behind them, the Bulldogs pushed themselves to a level of play that hasn't been seen all year.



Corey Mackin

"The season hasn't gone great and we just kept working in practice and staying as positive as we could and that really helped us," Ferris junior forward Corey Mackin said.

Now sitting in sixth place in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA), the Bulldogs are right on the heels of MTU who sits just six points ahead in fifth. Though

six points sounds like a lot, it's just a good weekend and a bit of luck away.

Though home ice at this point is a long shot, the Bulldogs have an opportunity now with six games left in the season to build some momentum and confidence to carry into the WCHA playoffs come March.

"We just need to find a way to capitalize on our opportunities and find a way to bear down," Ferris freshman forward Coale Norris said.

The Bulldogs will continue their final stretch when they travel to Alaska this week to play Friday, Feb. 2, and Saturday, Feb. 3. Both games are set for an 11:07 p.m. faceoff.

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NEWS

“Ferris is moving towards being more sustainable and that’s a start.”
- Amber Hubbard - See page 5 for story

Harley Harrison | News Editor | harrih12@ferris.edu

From students to patients

Pharmacy professor leads anticancer drug research

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

Cancer continues to be a major health concern for many but the Ferris College of Pharmacy has begun funded research to make a better anticancer drug.

Ferris received a grant for \$61,000 from the state of Michigan to fund the anticancer drug project. The research is led by Ferris Assistant Professor of Medicinal Chemistry Dr. Eric Nybo and is projected to continue for three years.

Nybo said the program focuses on creating natural products using biosynthesis or “creating drugs from bugs.” He applied for a grant to purchase equipment to do the research.

“In fall of 2017, I wrote a grant to fund a bioreactor. A bioreactor is this big fancy equipment to grow bacteria but make a lot of them. We were fortunate. The state gave us this ADVANCE grant, which actually gave me some resources to work on this project and hire a student,” Nybo said.

Nybo hired Ferris biotechnology student Jennifer Tran to assist him with the research. Tran, whom Nybo picked because of her interest in cancer biology, is getting hands-on experience in her field.

The money Nybo received is being used for many aspects of the project.

“Half of that pays for my effort, so that pays for me to have some release time to actually work on the project, and it also pays for some salary to hire Jennifer. The rest of it pays for supplies—to build the bioreactor, to have chemistry



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Ferris pharmacy professor Eric Nybo has received funding for anticancer drug research.



Eric Nybo

supplies,” Nybo said.

Many Ferris pharmacy students are excited about the project, such as Ferris first-year pharmacy student Olga Reiff.

“It’s an amazing thing that they’re supporting cancer research and that they’re funding it because I know a lot of funding is limited as to where it’s going to go. It’s really amazing that it’s going to go towards cancer, which a lot of cancers don’t have a lot of cures out there, so it’ll probably affect a lot of people,” Reiff said.

Ferris first-year pharmacy student Alisha Gaur thinks the

grant towards cancer research will help future patients.

“If it’s going towards cancer research, then it’ll help us a lot and also help the patients and that’s mostly what we’re trying to do in pharmacy—just help the patients. So I think it’s a really good initiative,” Gaur said.

Nybo said he hopes his research will result in a more efficient anticancer drug.

“Cancer is prevalent. There’s all kinds of it and we don’t have good enough drugs—the drugs aren’t soluble enough, they’re not tolerated well enough, they’re not efficacious enough, they’re not active enough. So we have to invent better drugs and I think I know how to do that. I think this is the approach,” Nybo said.

Minor trouble

Michigan law changes for those under 21

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

With the start of 2018, Michigan minors will no longer be charged with a misdemeanor for Minor in Possession (MIP) violations.

In December 2017, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder signed legislation that lessened the penalty for first time MIP violations in the state. What this change means is that instead of first time offenders being charged with a misdemeanor, they will instead be issued a civil infraction, which is in the same category as a speeding ticket.

In Michigan, a misdemeanor can stay on a criminal record permanently if the offender does not meet very specific criteria to have their record expunged. A civil infraction, however, is a much less serious offense.

“An example of a civil infraction would be a speeding ticket. A speeding ticket isn’t a criminal offense, it’s a civil infraction. It’s a violation, there are sanctions, you have to pay a fine and if you don’t show up to court there are issues but you don’t go to jail for speeding because there’s not that penalty attached to civil infractions,” Ferris Department of Public Safety Chief Bruce Borkovich said.

The new change has sparked controversy, even among students.

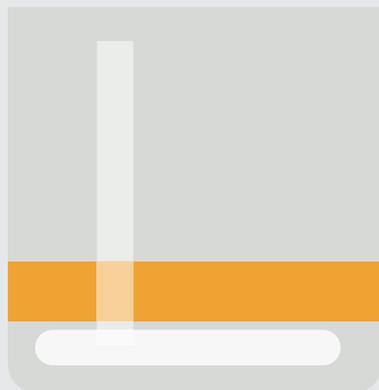
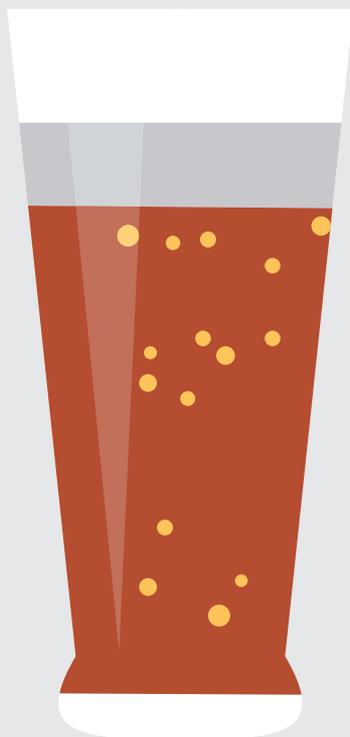
“I think it’s a really good idea, es-

pecially for incoming students. At college, you’re in a new environment, you make mistakes and you do things you probably wouldn’t have done if you were at home. Just because people do things and try things out, why prevent someone from getting into their program or from what they want to do with their life and have [a misdemeanor] affect their whole life?” Ferris nursing senior Harmin Gill said. “When you’re 17 or 18, decisions you make that young shouldn’t affect what you do for the next 50 years of your life, so I think it was a really good idea to decriminalize it.”

Some Ferris students think that the change could lead to more recklessness from minors who consume alcohol.

“I don’t think this law is going to change anyone’s opinion on drinking. I don’t think anyone who was not drinking before is simply because they didn’t want to get an MIP. I think they weren’t drinking for personal reasons. I feel this law won’t increase drinking but we may see an increase in MIPs because people might become a little more reckless. I think it might make people a little less afraid to get caught,” Ferris accounting freshman Bobby Gill said.

The new changes came into effect Jan. 1 and more information can be found at Michigan.gov/ohsp.



First time offenders

- Civil infraction
- Fines as much as \$100
- Substance abuse screening
- Community service
- No deferral possible

Second time offenders

- Misdemeanor
- Fines as much as \$200
- Substance abuse screening
- Community service
- Possible deferral
- License suspended for 90 days
- 30 days of possible jail time if probation is violated or there is failure to pay fines

Third time offenders

- Misdemeanor
- Fines as much as \$500
- Substance abuse screening
- Possible deferral
- License suspended for one year
- 60 days of possible jail time if probation is violated or there is failure to pay fines

The above information is from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Crazed for credit

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Pine problems

Jan. 19, 12:17 a.m., officers investigated a controlled substance and narcotics equipment violation in the Pine Valley Suites. One subject was arrested and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Drunk driving

Jan. 19, 10:31 p.m., officers arrested one subject on Finch Court and Family

Drive for operating under the influence of alcohol.

Drugged driving

Jan. 20, 6:34 p.m., officers arrested one subject on State Street and Woodward Avenue for operating under the influence of drugs.

Senseless violations

Jan. 21, 1:12 a.m., officers investigated a controlled substance violation in Vandercook Hall. The investigation is closed and

no action was taken.

More student stupidity

Jan. 21, 11:38 p.m., officers investigated a controlled substance and narcotics equipment violation in Cramer Hall. One student was arrested and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Zero tolerance

Jan. 21, 5:52 p.m., Ferris Department of Public Safety received a report of harassment. The investigation has been

closed.

Sleuthing around

Jan. 23, 4:58 p.m., officers investigated a controlled substance violation in Lot 28. The investigation is still open.

Crazed for credit

Jan. 24, 2:49 p.m., Ferris Department of Public Safety received a report of credit card fraud. The investigation is still open.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Kabul, Afghanistan

95 people are dead and 158 injured after the Taliban drove and detonated an ambulance filled with explosives into a crowded street. Hospitals are currently overflowed with the wounded and forensic scientists are struggling to identify bodies recovered from the blast.

Original story by Mujib Mashal and Jawad Sukhanyar, Jan. 27, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Guinobatan, Philippines

70,000 people have been evacuated from their homes after Mount Mayon, a famous volcano known for its beauty, is expected to erupt. Not only do residents have to fear lava but the air has become so filled with ash that it has become difficult to breathe.

Original story by Jes Aznar and Russell Gold-

man, Jan. 25, 2018. *The New York Times*.

London, United Kingdom

For the first time in the existence of Oxford University, the incoming class this past fall had more females than males. According to the admissions services at Oxford, 1,070 women enrolled in the fall of 2017, compared to 1,025 men.

Original story by Stephen Castle, Jan. 26, 2018. *The New York Times*.

France

When the famous brand, Nutella, offered 70 percent off of their 33-ounce jars, it caused customers to become so frantic that the police had to be called in certain locations. Some stores restricted the sale to one jar per person, while other stores quickly ran out.

Original story by Palko Karasz, Jan. 26, 2018. *The New York Times*.

NEWS BRIEFS

Harley Harrison
News Editor

OMSS: Black History Month speaker: Khalid el-Hakim

Come see a presentation from The Black History 101 Mobile Museum founder Khalid el-Hakim Thursday, Feb. 1 from 11 to 11:50 a.m. in University Center 217. The presentation will kick off the Office of Multicultural Student Services Black History Month celebrations. Please contact Michael Wade at omss@ferris.edu for more information.

Improv comedy night

Join the Ferris Improv Troupe Friday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. in Business 111 for a celebration of the Festival of the Arts. For more information, please visit brfota.org.

Author Noley Reid: a Literature in Person event

Venture out to the Fine Art Gallery in the University Center Monday, Feb. 5, from 7 to 8 p.m. to hear author Noley Reid read and answer questions about her novel "Pretend We are Lovely." For more information, please contact Dr. Deirdre Fagan at DeirdreFagan@ferris.edu.

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Torch Corrections

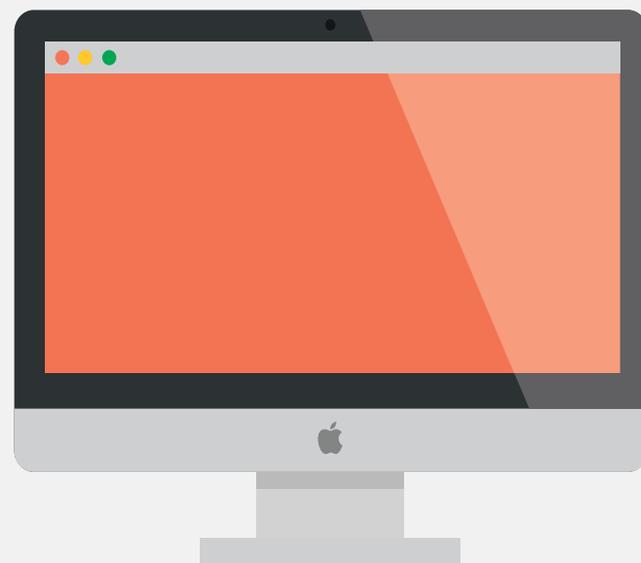
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A pretty RAD idea



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Sergeant Jacobs gears up to teach self defense for the RAD program.

DPS holds Rape Aggression Defense program

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

Many students think campus is pretty safe, such as Ferris criminal justice and psychology junior Tess Strasser.

"We have those blue lights there, there's always people around, it's always well-lit. I feel very safe walking to and from my car on campus at night, during the day, any time," Strasser said.

However, not all women feel protected when alone on campus and the Ferris Department of Public Safety (DPS) is looking to change that by holding a self-defense program.

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program is a female-only class that teaches women how to defend themselves. The class will be held Feb. 10 and 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is taught by Ferris DPS Officer Nick Greenway and Detective Sergeant Tim Jacobs.

"The very first part of RAD, we talk about situational awareness and then we go hands-on and show techniques to give women confidence in their physical abilities and whatever they're comfortable with on defending themselves," Jacobs said. "It's fun, educational and it just gives some additional tools that they might not have thought about or even known to begin with."

The class is open to students and community members from ages eight and up, according to Jacobs. Thirty women can sign up for the class.

"From when they start to when they finish, you can definitely see that growth within a 10 to 12-hour



Tess Strasser

class, which is rewarding for an instructor but then to watch those guys go out. I've seen past students that have had RAD here on campus and it just builds that relationship, which is cool," Jacobs said.

"I think it can benefit females a lot. I think we do have a very safe campus but it's always good to be educated, and this is stuff that can help outside of campus, too," Strasser said.

Ferris pre-nursing freshman Christine Loeffler said it's a good idea for women to learn self-defense methods.

"I think it's a great idea, just because whenever you go anywhere,



Christine Loeffler

it's great to know self-defense for anyone," Loeffler said. "It's good to know because you can always use it. It's always in the back of your head. You're always conscious of what's going on, and it helps you learn and keep you on your toes."

To sign up for RAD, call DPS at (231) 591-5000.

Access denied

Aged buildings cause problems



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Torch Photographer

Certain areas on campus are recognized as challenging to navigate because of a lack of updating.

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Many students don't worry about access to elevators and bathrooms but those things often aren't available for students who need them.

When the buildings on campus were constructed, they were all up to code, including the necessary measures that needed to be taken to accommodate people with handicaps. However, many buildings were built more than 50 years ago and the accommodations made during the original construction are no longer considered adequate by today's standards.

That doesn't mean Ferris has to renovate them though. As long as a building was in compliance when it was built and the area that was in compliance isn't renovated, it does not have to be up to current standards of code.

"Ferris is not unlike most universities—it's old. Buildings are up to code as much as they needed to be when it was built. Renovating them takes a ton of time and money and sometimes that stuff gets neglected until it's needed, until there is a student who needs it," Ferris Educational Counseling and Disabilities Services Chair Kim Dickman said.

Accessibility issues span over a wide variety of areas for a broad spectrum of disabilities. Accessible bathrooms and the lack of conveniently placed elevators are two of the major issues on campus.

"Universal design for a bathroom would be that it's wheelchair accessible, that it's accessible for little people and accessible for people with all different kinds of abilities. If you look around campus, you can tell that there are bathrooms that are not set up that way. Sinks are all at a certain height, bathroom stalls are not big enough for a wheelchair. Even though they'll say that they're wheelchair

accessible, they may not be big enough for a wheelchair," Dickman said.

Ferris graphic design sophomore Tea Kruisenga, who was been on crutches for two weeks, had trouble getting to her classes in the Starr building due to the lack of accessible elevators.

"There are no elevators anywhere to get to anything and I don't know where they are," Kruisenga said of the Starr building.

As for residence halls and on-campus apartments, about half are handicap accessible according to Ferris Director of Housing and Residence Life Bryan Marquardt. However, the housing department has plans in place to make sure that all handicapped students are appropriately accommodated.

"We always hold [handicap accessible rooms]. For instance, right now North Hall is half full for next year. All the rooms are offline and those will stay offline until

right before school starts, and then we'll fill those rooms but only fill them with the understanding that if we need them that the student would have to move. That's because North Hall is so sought after. We do have other rooms on campus that we hold and don't fill," Marquardt said.

On top of the building accessibility, some students think that the campus lacks an adequate amount of handicap parking as well.

"If Ferris does need to improve, it definitely needs to be on the dorms and sometimes the parking could be more accessible for handicapped people," Ferris radiography junior Shelby Allen said.

Stay tuned for a follow up article in the Torch once an audit of Ferris' accessibility is released in February.



Shelby Allen

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Changing the standard

Sustainability earns Gold status

Cora Hall
Torch Reporter

Since the creation of the Energy Conservation Task Force in 2009, every completed building project on Ferris' campus has earned LEED Gold status, including North Hall, which opened in August 2017.

LEED is a rating system by the U.S. Green Building Council and it measures the commitment to sustainability and energy efficient design. In most building projects, this equates to simple things like good quality insulation and windows, low water use plumbing fixtures and efficient lighting, according to Ferris Associate Vice President for the Physical Plant Michael Hughes.

Ferris' standard for all building projects since 2011 has been LEED Silver status. Among the other buildings that have gained LEED Gold status are East Campus Suites, Michigan College of Optometry, W.N. Ferris Building (Grand Rapids Campus), the University Center and West Campus Apartments.

"I would say that any kind of energy conservation is important no matter how small," Ferris psychology junior and secretary of the Bulldog Sustainability Alliance Dani Jandura said. "So, starting with buildings, something that we are constantly interacting with, should be the first thing we take care of."

In surveys conducted by the Environmental Sustainability Task Force in 2016, it was found that 73 percent of Ferris students feel that understanding sustainability is critical to their future careers and 64 percent of students feel it is somewhat to very important to know about university sustainability actions.

"Five, 10 years ago, sustainability would have never been on their radar and now it's one of their three or five most basic concepts that they're going to try and work into things. It's important and I think it's really cool that they're doing that," Jandura said.

Efforts to increase sustainability and energy conservation in buildings has, quite literally, paid off. For the fiscal year of 2017, total electricity, natural gas and water cost was the lowest it has been in 10 years. Overall, those costs decreased by 26 percent in that decade.



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris campus earns LEED Gold status in energy conservation.

According to Hughes, around \$3.5 million has been invested into projects that save energy around campus such as light and water conservation retrofits since 2011.

"I think it's just part of being a good citizen but for us it's more practical," Hughes said of sustainability and energy conservation. "For every dollar we don't spend on energy, that's another way to keep costs low for students."



Dani Jandura

Although pleased with the progress Ferris has made, members of the Bulldog Sustainability Alliance want to push for higher standards.

"We're just trying to get them to change the standard to Gold in the first place because they are already achieving it anyway, so we might as well make it the Gold rather than falling back to the Silver standard," Ferris environmental biology junior and vice president of the Bulldog

Sustainability Alliance Amber Hubbard said.

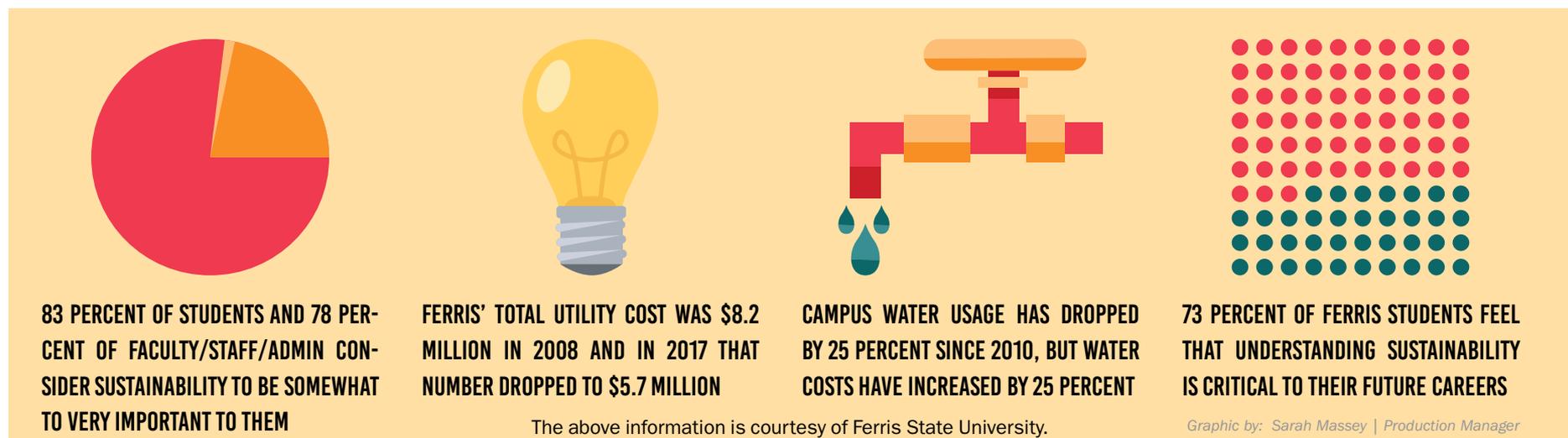


Amber Hubbard

The Energy Conservation Task Force is composed of 14 members from across campus including the Physical Plant, Dining Services, Student Services, Academic Affairs, Arts and Sciences, Advancement and Marketing, faculty, finance and Kendall College of Art & Design. This group was asked to identify ways the university can reduce its consumption of natural gas, electricity, water and solid waste but at the same time, to focus on projects that are

no cost, low cost or ones with a payback period of up to four years, according to their report from 2009.

"Ferris is moving towards being more sustainable and that's a start," Hubbard said. "I'm just very proud of the university for stepping up to the plate and doing as much as they can feasibly."



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2018 MAY COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 4, 2018 and Saturday, May 5, 2018
Ewigleben Sport Complex (Wink Arena)

| College | Contact | Phone # | Location |
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| Health Professions | Richelle Williams | (231) 591-2263 | VFS 210 |
| Arts & Sciences | Barb Hampel | (231) 591-3660 | ASC 3052 |
| Business (Undergrad Students on & off-campus) | Carri Griffis | (231) 591-2493 | BUS 200 |
| Business (Graduate Students) | Shannon Yost | (231) 591-2168 | BUS 200E |
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| Pharmacy | Tara Lee | (231) 591-2249 | PHR 312 |
| 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 22th, 11:00 am - 5:00pm in the University Center - Multi Purpose Rooms or starting March 22th - April 24, 2018 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 22, 2018**. Extra tickets are not distributed and lost tickets will not be replaced. **Tickets must be reserved by Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 11:59 pm.**

Commencement Program - Graduates must complete their online graduation application by **Friday, February 23, 2018 for their names to appear in the Spring 2018 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 4 | |
|-----------------|--|
| Time | College |
| 3:30 pm | College of Health Professions Michigan College of Optometry |
| 7:00 pm | College of Arts & Sciences College of Pharmacy Doctorate in Community College Leadership |
| Saturday, May 5 | |
| Time | College |
| 9:00 am | College of Education & Human Services |
| 12:30 pm | College of Engineering Technology |
| 4:00 pm | College of Business |

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.

OPINIONS

“Don’t give up on love just yet, Bulldogs.”
- Harley Harrison - See below for story

Marley Tucker | Opinions Editor | marleyitucker@gmail.com

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

This week I did something that I haven’t done in years. It felt so good; I couldn’t help but moan as my toes curled and my whole body sighed with relief... that’s right, I saw a chiropractor.

I started seeing a chiropractor when I was 17 for a variety of reasons. Between playing golf every day for hours, to toting around double D-cups, I had various ailments stretching from my head to my toes that ultimately resulted in chronic pain.

I remember getting a lot of flack for it back then; unbeknownst to me at the time, apparently chiropractors are widely regarded as quacks by the medical community.

Even my general practitioner seemed to mentally roll her eyes when I told her I was seeing what she equated to a shaman.

But I’ll be damned if that one-year span wasn’t the best I’ve felt in my life.

I was sleeping better, I wasn’t

Voodoo witchcraft

getting headaches the way I used to and I didn’t try to crack my neck every three seconds to find some modicum of relief.

Now you might be wondering why I stopped going and the answer is simple: the almighty dollar. My insurance only covered a certain number of appointments per year and once that was up, the price of feeling good was just too high.

Admittedly, I could have gone back but being away at school

and living on a fixed budget deterred me. But I’m a grown-up now, and I’m not afraid of filling out medical paperwork anymore.

The moral of this story is that, in my personal experience, a good chiropractor can change your life.

If the only reason you’ve been holding off is a stupid stigma, hop on Google, find someone nearby with good ratings that accepts your insurance and go crazy. You’ll thank me later.

How to avoid a f-ckboy

10 sure fire ways to know if you’re being played



Harley Harrison
News Editor

It’s the season of love, which means the campus has officially turned into open hunting grounds.

Unfortunately, not all college students have matured past high school and the dating pool at Ferris is just as deep as the kiddie pool you played in when you were three.

Now I am not a pessimist—if you found someone amazing at Ferris, I salute you. But single Bulldogs have to be on the constant lookout for a breed called f-ckboys. I am also not sexist by any means. I fully believe that a f-ckboy is not restrained by gender.

Ladies, or anyone interested in men, we have a problem on our hands. Again, this term is not restrained by gender, even if I use ‘he’ and ‘she’ pronouns. Simply put, they are basically just very talented players.

So how can we avoid them? After discussing this with my friends, I have compiled a survival guide that should get you through the semester.

They might be a f-ckboy if:

10. They could definitely be defined as a “momma’s boy” but they lack a respect for women. Ironic, I know, but not uncommon. No one will ever rank higher than his mom but women are objectified to a great extent.

9. He still dresses like a high schooler. OK, so when is the last time you’ve worn those brands that you were obsessed with in high school? I’m talking about the Hollister T-shirts and the bro tanks—you know the look.

8. He is obsessed with his self-image. At first, you might find this extremely attractive. He works out and has the body to show for it. But you start to notice that the only pictures on his Instagram are the ones of him shirtless, flexing his muscles.

7. He uses pictures of you to make someone else jealous. You’re on a date with this guy and you barely know him. Yet, here he is taking a picture of you and putting it on his Snapchat story. But then, a couple hours later, his phone is blowing up because his ex is jealous. He will do this when he dumps you, too. Just ignore him.

6. He describes all his exes as “crazy.” Dude, we know that’s not true. “Crazy” is

the adjective men come up with to say, “I treated her like crap and made her crazy.” He might have a few crazy exes but not all of them.

5. He thinks he is God’s gift to women. Yup, women worship him and he knows it. He believes he can get any girl he wants and he may even welcome the challenge. Maybe you’re the type of person who usually doesn’t attract f-ckboys and he might say that he likes you because you’re ‘mature’ and you have your ‘life together,’ unlike those ‘other girls.’

4. He might say he’s a feminist but he isn’t body positive. You’re a strong, independent person and he knows that the best way to impress you is to say that he supports you in those beliefs. Yet you find him body shaming other people—perhaps not you but the people around him.

3. He doesn’t introduce you to his friends. OK, so you might know his roommates and maybe like one friend but he won’t introduce you to anyone he doesn’t have to.

2. He says the romantic things you hear in the movies but doesn’t act that way. Knowing exactly what you want to hear is just part of his game. He will say things so sweet that it sounds like a line from a rom-com. It is a line. If it sounds out of place, it probably has zero meaning behind it.

1. He says he isn’t like other guys. Well duh, like he’s going to admit to it? Even if you confront him or ask him about it, he will say things like, “You just have to believe me.”

Don’t give up on love just yet, Bulldogs. Real, honest people are out there. Just be patient and love yourself enough to know that you deserve better than f-ckboys.



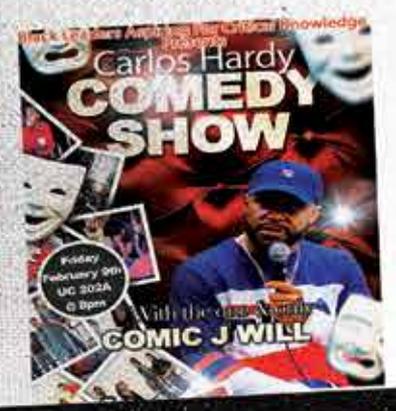
Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

Black Leaders Aspiring for Critical Knowledge PRESENTS

2018 THE Weekend OF STARS

Friday February 9th

The Carlos Hardy Comedy Show
Hosted by Comedian **Comic J Will**
**Adult Content*
8pm @ UC 202A



CARLOS HARDY

Saturday February 10th

The 23rd Annual Image Awards
Hosted by **Mike Noble & Shayna Harris**
**Formal Dress Attire Is Required*
6pm @ Williams Auditorium



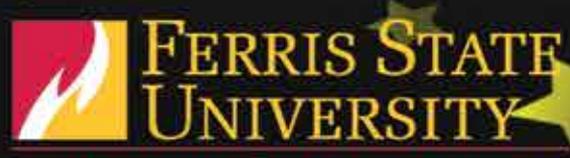
IMAGE AWARDS

Sunday February 11th

The Success Conference
Keynote Speaker **Brian Chandler**
**RSVP IS ENCOURAGED*
1pm-3:30pm @ UC 202B



SUCCESS CONFERENCE



Office of Multicultural
Student Services



@black_fsu

If you have a disability and need assistance to attend an event listed, contact BLACK's Secretary Thomas Murry at least 72 hours in advance at 313-530-0732 or at murryt@ferris.edu. Ferris State University is an equal opportunity institution. For information on the University's Policy on non-discrimination, visit www.ferris.edu/non-discrimination.



Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

Emotional first aid

Self-care is important for everyone



Marley Tucker
Opinions Editor

We're on the cusp of beginning a new month and I can see people's New Year's resolutions disintegrating on the winds across campus. However, there is one promise that you should keep: employing emotional first aid where you need it.

First, I want you to ask yourself: when was the last time you put your own self-care first? It took me an uncomfortably long time to find my own answer. When classes pick up, it's hard to draw a line between people's expectations and what we can give them.

When the emotional tank is running on empty, we go through the motions of life on autopilot. We think that we're too busy to take some time away for ourselves but the truth is that you're never too busy for

a short check-out from life.

Taking time off can actually help you progress with projects faster than before because self-care prevents you from burning out.

In America, we glorify overworking ourselves and brag about how much sleep we don't get. Unfortunately, throwing away self-care for the sake of productivity can hurt you.

According to the American Psychological Association, chronic stress can cause health problems, including fatigue, headaches, irritability and issues with concentration.

We've all been there: you push to the breaking point until you can't take anymore and then you give up trying.

Self-care encourages accountability—you are acknowledging your feelings as they happen.

I'm calling myself out for being a hypocrite about my own approach to self-care; I run myself into the ground trying to constantly make other people happy.

Self-care isn't a fad and it isn't frivolous or just for a certain gender. It is important to maintain a healthy relationship with yourself. In my senior year at Ferris, I wish I focused on it sooner.

Think of self-care acting like a Band-Aid

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

in standard emotional first aid: by mending a blow to your confidence and worth, you are allowing yourself to heal.

Self-care comes in many forms and one person's preferred method might not work for someone else. Self-care means establishing boundaries and focusing on reflection. You need to put in the effort on your behalf—patch up your emotions when they need it.

Treats & Sweets that can't be beat!

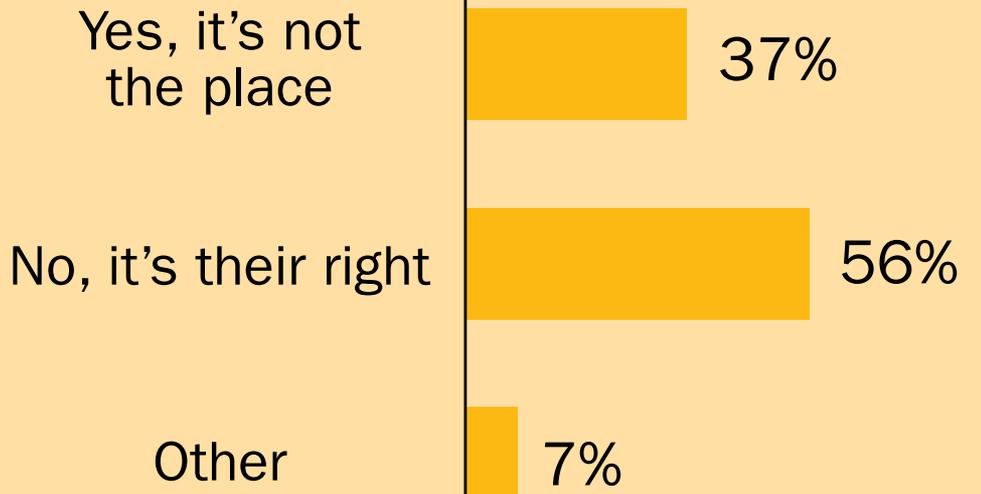


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TORCH POLL RESULTS



Should political statements be banned at award shows?



Stay updated on campus news by liking us on Facebook or following us on Twitter



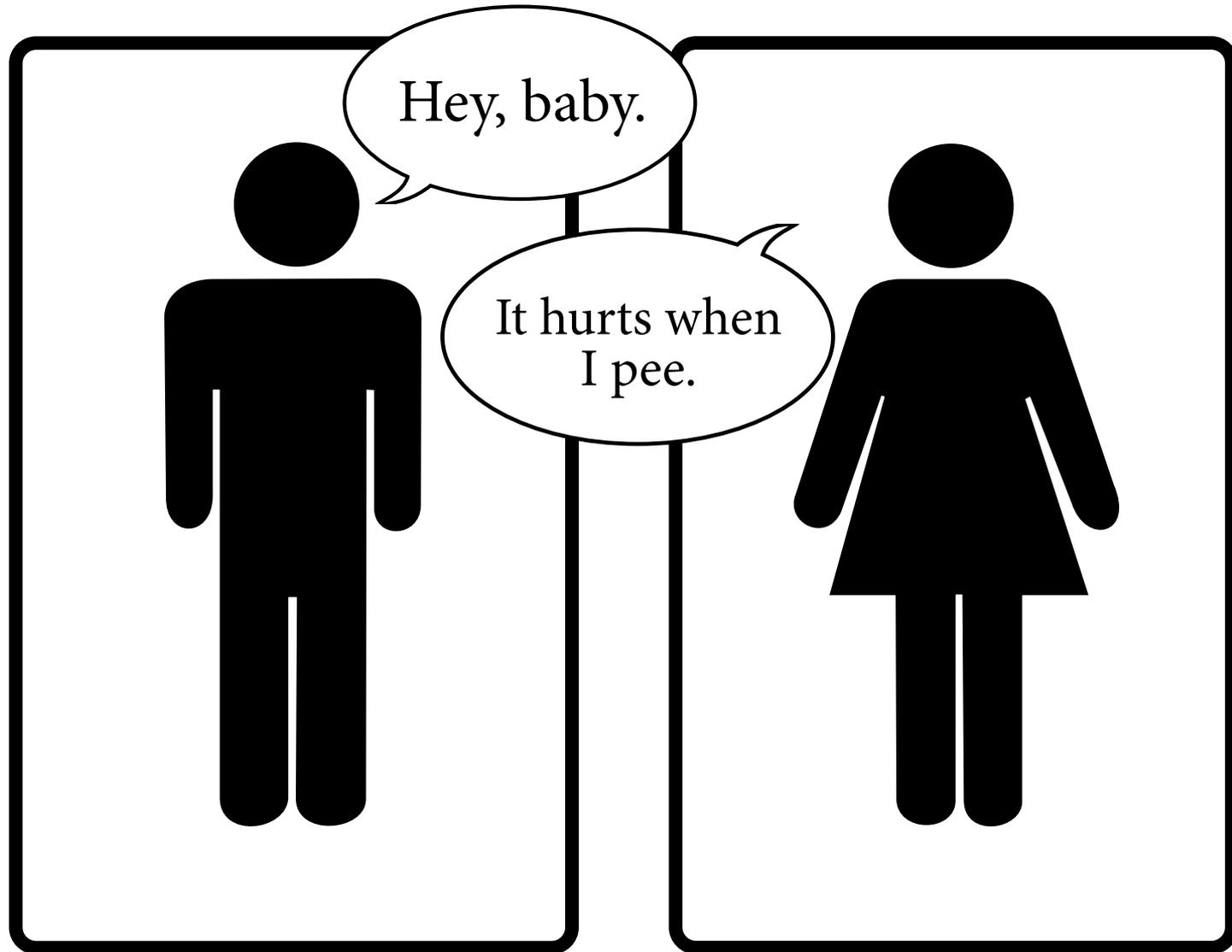
Ferris State University Tire Fire

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



Hell is a bathroom stall

Student forgoes Birkham fee and regrets it immensely



Student starts huge project day before it's due, writes way earlier date on it to fool professor into believing she has her life together

Pg. 2

Online job application requires submittal of resume, still forces you to enter everything that's already listed on your resume manually

Pg. 3

Student pays \$745, his immortal soul, for textbooks at on-campus bookstore instead of buying them for a fraction of the cost online

Pg. 4

Legal Disclaimer:

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

Jolene Jones

Professional juggler

People go to Shooters for a variety of reasons: some drink away their GPA and others try to forget about how much student debt they'll wake up with. Lucky patrons even spice up the party by finding love under the low lights.

Ferris philosophy freshman Chad Church learned his lesson the hard way after a woman left a parting gift for him of the venereal variety. After hooking up with a woman going by the name of "Lizzy Lips," Church didn't realize that something was wrong until it was too late.

"She was extremely hot and I thought that I was lucky she even looked at me. We left the dance floor at Shoots and occupied a

stall in the men's bathroom to get it on. I never talked to her afterwards," Church said. "After the encounter, I started to notice that something was wrong with me."

After complaining to roommates about a terrible itch in questionable places, Church disclosed that he declined to pay the health fee for access to Ferris' Birkham Center. He instead opted to use the refund money to pay the cover charge at Shooters the night he contracted the disease.

"I wanted to drag him to Birkham to have some tests done but he'd have to pay out the wazoo to go there without his health fee paid," Ferris applied speech communications freshman and Church's roommate Billy Horne said. "Whatever he's got is nasty. You know that meme

with the dog sitting in a room that's on fire and he says everything is fine when it isn't? That's what his life is like now, man. It's really sad."

Church is willing to consider being a test subject in an infectious disease research lab to fix his problems. His ordeal doesn't stop him from going to Shooters, however.

"Whatever crazy shit is done to me by sleep deprived science students will always be better than going to Birkham," Church said.

Church serves as a cautionary tale to all students who forfeit their Birkham charge with their tuition. While \$47 back in your pocket seems nice for a while, you may go to a bar and get a venereal infection that will make you regret it.

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

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

Dispelling stereotypes surrounding common Ferris majors



Hugh Stungelpatch
Furniture spritzer

1. Pre-pharmacy majors

Pre-pharmacy majors aren't actually geniuses. They just memorize five complicated-sounding words in their first semester of organic chemistry and repeat them over and over again to sound smart. They're just as hopelessly lost in lecture as everybody else.

2. English majors

English majors can't actually quote Shakespeare at will. They just assemble their own random, nonsensical string of old-timey words and say them in iambic pentameter in a desperate plea for attention.

3. Computer information systems majors

They teach you one thing on the first day of class as a computer information systems major—the internet is only good for two

things: porn and MMORPGs. So that's what they spend the rest of their time as undergraduates perusing, which means they can't actually fix your laptop.

4. Music industry management majors

Look, just because they love sitting around listening to music enough to devote thousands of dollars and four years of education towards a major that definitely won't land them a real job doesn't mean that they all just smoke weed. They're on acid too.

5. Journalism majors

These scumbags think they're so cool with their notepads and tape recorders and lousy campus newspaper. I hate them all. #FakeNews

6. Business administration majors

There are actually a couple of students in this major that

wouldn't be willing to stomp on a sick puppy in order to get an edge over their peers. Go figure.

7. Professional tennis management majors

They also don't understand why normal shoes are called "tennis shoes." Seriously, what's the deal with that?

8. History majors

Despite what you may have heard about history majors never being able to find lasting careers after graduation, that stereotype is totally false. In fact, history majors are among the most well prepared for a life of peddling beauty products to their friends on social media as part of an obvious pyramid scheme.

9. Forensic biology majors

Amazingly, these students actually do practice the same types of techniques you see on popular TV dramas like NCIS and Criminal Minds. Of course, none of them are nearly as hot as their Hollywood counterparts.

10. Graphic design majors

These people are so wonderfully artistic and create such incredible designs that they must have beautiful minds and be so interesting to talk to! Wait, no. It's the opposite of that. You know what's really freaking annoying to hear about for ten hours straight? Fonts. That's what graphic design students live for.

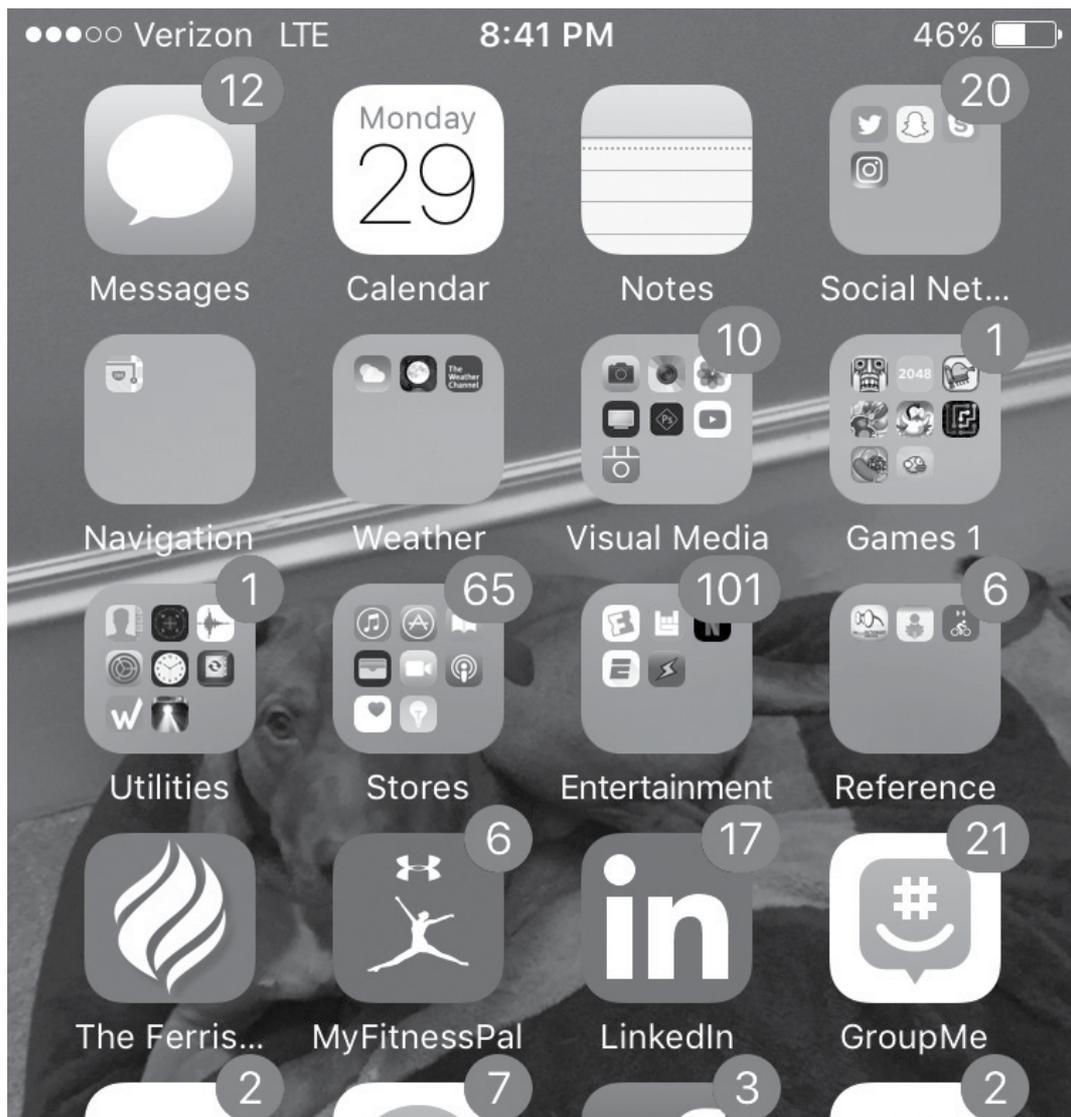
Feature photo

Trust us, there's some awesome sports action going on in this photo. In case you've ever wondered what it's like to be a sports photographer, this is it. You shoot 50 percent sports, 50 percent referee ass.



Lifelong dream

Student finally clears all phone notifications and graduates after four long years of work



A new scientific study confirmed that if you don't have this many notifications on your phone right now, then you aren't leading a life worth living.

Katrina LaDouch
Yodel mogul

Graduating from college is a pretty big milestone but it doesn't hold a candle to what one recent Ferris alumna is calling the greatest accomplishment of her life.

Kathy Bickels graduated from Ferris with a bachelor's degree in marketing last winter and has since landed a rewarding career at a marketing firm in Grand Rapids. However, she's most proud of the fact that she finally cleared all of the notifications on her phone for one fleeting instant.

"Finally, after all those late nights of scrolling on my phone then setting it down only to immediately unlock it again to check Twitter, I caught up," Bickels said. "There were no texts, no missed calls, nothing happening on my social media posts. It was a moment of pure zen."

Bickels manages a variety of social media accounts, multiple email accounts that have received nothing but Hot Topic and Club Penguin spam since 2009 and an amateur fashion blog. As a result, her phone almost never stops vibrating with push notifications.

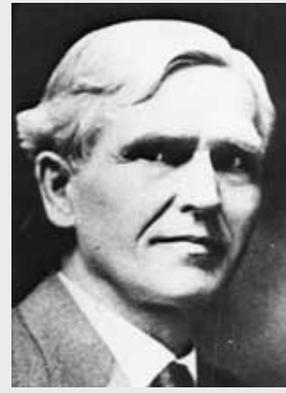
"We're just so proud of her ac-

complishment and have been telling everybody," Bickels' mother Claudia Bickels said. "I mean, when she turned 16 and opened that Instagram account, I didn't think she'd ever clear her notifications completely but look at her now! Plus, she graduated pretty recently so that's nice too, I guess."

Bickels' younger brother, who is midway through his freshman year at Ferris, looks up to his sister and one day hopes to emulate her achievement.

"I tell my younger brother that I'm no hero. It just takes hard work and perseverance. Just make sure your phone screen is the first thing you see in the morning and the last thing you see at night. Keep scrolling through lectures while your professor is talking. And NEVER miss an opportunity to scroll behind the wheel, like when you're at a red light, stuck in traffic or just driving less than 55 miles per hour," Bickels said.

At press time, Bickels was hard at work sending a photo of her bedroom wall and minimal text to several Snapchat friends with whom she had maintained a meaningless Snap streak.



Ask Woodbridge

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

"OK, before I tell you this, I need you to swear to secrecy because I live in the dorms and am definitely breaking the rules with this situation. Deal? I guess I'll just assume you agreed. Anyway, as mentioned I live in the dorms—on the third floor of Ward Hall to be exact—and my pet recently escaped.

Normally this wouldn't be a huge deal but I haven't been able to find him for about three days and he's probably getting hungry. Oh and he's an eight-foot Burmese python with a taste for human flesh. I thought I could flush him out by also releasing my colony of pet centipedes and tarantulas but no dice. Anyway, what should I do?"

- Wackjob in Ward

I... I don't even... What?! OK, let me think for a second... I think you're on the right track, but the biggest problem is the bait you're using. The snake won't come back home for a plateful of lousy bugs, but he might come back if you're willing to sacrifice that annoying freshman who's way too into every housing event. Tie him up and ring the dinner bell "Jurassic Park" style.

If that doesn't work, try using the sword of Godric Gryffindor to put that basilisk down before it can cause too much trouble at my school. Oh and maybe try human social interaction next time you're inspired to buy some freakish hell beast to keep as a pet, you freak.

- Woodbridge

"I'm already stressing about Valentine's Day because I know that my girlfriend is going to expect some huge romantic gesture and I know that I'm not creative enough to deliver. What should I do?"

- Ronnie the Romantic

Ah, I get it. This is all a euphemism. By, "some huge romantic gesture," you mean a decent performance in bed for once and by, "I'm not creative enough to deliver," you mean you can't sustain a boner and have never heard of a clitoris.

Here's my advice: don't even try. If you treat your girlfriend to a good time on Valentine's Day, she's going to expect to be treated like you actually care about her all the time. Do you know how exhausting that is? I mean, I bought my wife Hellen Ferris flowers on her birthday once and it ruined my life. I had to name a whole dormitory after that woman! Then it got torn down! Just get your sweetie accustomed to the fact that you're a scumbag and hope that she sticks around with delusions of, "changing you."

- Woodbridge

"What's your catchphrase?"

- Just Mike

Don't slip slop on my bang yang unless you're going to trifle with the sluffies.

- Woodbridge

We cracked open a Student Government suggestion box... Here's what we found



Christian Contrabas

Still owes me utility money

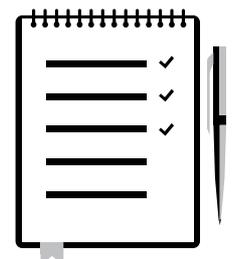
Ferris' Student Government wants your feedback and they've long hoped to collect it through submissions to scattered suggestion boxes throughout campus. Most of these boxes are locked up tight but *Tire Fire* reporters have cracked into one.

Check out some of the suggestions Bulldogs are leaving for student government!

1. A suggestion that the student government president only communicate to the public through Twitter rants in an effort to mirror national policy.
2. A pile of dead spiders.
3. Four Bitcoins.
4. A series of additional student government suggestion boxes packed inside one another, each a bit smaller than the last.
5. A single written ballot for the 2015 Student Government President election. Had this one write-in vote been counted, it would've increased total voter turnout by 20 percent that year. The written-in candidate was "Deez Nuts."
6. Several unanswered prayers.
7. A cat that's either alive or dead.
8. FSU President David Eisler's Christmas list for Santa, which includes a new clarinet and more state funding for the school.

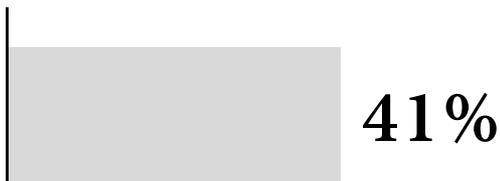
This Student Government Suggestion Box is perched, unlocked, on a wall downstairs in the Science Building. Look inside yourself. It's actual contents are a lot more vulgar than what's mentioned here.

Tire Fire Poll Results



What's the best part of starting a new spring semester?

Discovering which textbooks you won't actually have to buy.



The ability to hide the "Freshman 15" under five sweaters and two coats.



Knowing that you won't see the sun or feel joy again until at least April.



Why is this bar so big?



This one time while I was taking summer classes at Ferris, I was riding a bike to class on the sidewalk when I got hit by a car. The lady who hit me was pulling out of the driveway of a church and clearly didn't look to see if she was about to murder any pedestrians. Instead of stopping to see if I was OK, she just sped off. I wasn't badly hurt or anything but still, who does that? Pulling out of a church, no less! I'll see you in Hell, lady.

Read the Tire Fire published during the last week of every month!

SPORTS

"When you're on the court, you just know that every single guy out there has got your back." - Andrew Meacham - See page 12 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

From Dawg to draft



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Junior defensive end Zach Sieler fights his way through offensive lineman. Sieler has decided to forgo his final season as a Bulldog to play professional football.

Ferris defensive lineman headed to the NFL

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

Standout Ferris junior defensive end Zach Sieler has decided to forgo his last year of college eligibility and enter the 2018 National Football League (NFL) draft.

The 6-foot-6, 290-pound lineman was a two-time All-American and helped lead the Bulldogs to the Division II National semi-final game a year ago as he took over as the most feared man in the nation.

Sieler graduated from Ferris in December 2017 with a degree in mechanical engineering technology and that played a role into his decision to leave.

"I don't have any classes to take. I have my degree and job opportunities if I wanted those, so it made it better knowing I have that as a fallback plan," Sieler said.

The Pinckney native came to Ferris as an undersized walk-on before developing into one of the biggest lineman in the nation. In 2016, Sieler broke out as a sophomore, setting new school records with 29.5 tackles for loss and 19.5 sacks. He was awarded as the Football Gazette National Defensive Player of the Year for his efforts.

Though he lined up across from more than one offensive lineman on most occasions in the 2017 season, Sieler still led the team with 21 tackles for loss and seven sacks. He

was also third in team tackles with 79 and forced and recovered two fumbles. What really stood out about Sieler, however, was that his impact off the field was even bigger than on it.

"This is a great opportunity for Zach to realize a dream of playing professional football," head coach Tony Annese said in an interview with Ferris State Athletics. "While we will certainly miss his play as one of the country's top players on the field, we're also losing a tremendous young man and leader who put forth a large amount of time and energy in helping our program grow."



Tony Annese

Sieler is now focused on rounding out his game before embarking on his new journey and looks back on his time as a Bulldog fondly.

"It was amazing, I had the most fun there that I have had in my entire life so far. The guys were amazing and I'm going to miss those guys so much," Sieler said. "The coaches have been more than helpful and accommodating, just like family with me. I really like that atmosphere."

The NFL Draft is scheduled for April 26-28. Sieler will look to become the first Bulldog ever drafted into the NFL.

Shaking off the dust

Ferris indoor track & field starts on a high note

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

The Ferris men's and women's indoor track and field teams launched their season Friday, Jan. 19, at the Kelly Family Sports Center in Allendale for the Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Open.

In their first outing, the Bulldogs totaled 34 points on the men's side and six on the women's.

Senior Jon Cook led the Bulldogs in the high jump as he placed first in the event and earned a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II National Provisional Qualifying mark with a 6-8.25 jump.

The Bulldogs' junior Cody Stilwell earned a National-Qualifying mark with a runner-up finish in the weight throw with a 65-2.75 throw. This was Stilwell's best throw in his career at Ferris and set a new school record.

Sophomore sprinter Stanley Williams placed eighth in the 60-meter dash finals and senior Trevor Holowaty placed ninth in the 3,000 meters.

The Ferris men finished in seventh place in the 4-by-400-meter relay, which consisted of sophomore Dylan Hearn, sophomore Ethan Israels, freshman Mark Jacobs and junior John Alberts.

"Our team ran well for our first meet at GVSU. For a lot of the guys and girls it was our first time on an indoor track in a long time so it was good

time to jump in a few races and shake the rust off from the winter training," Holowaty said. "Coach Kelsh has really been emphasizing recovery this winter training season."

On the women's side at GVSU, sophomore Katie Etelamaki finished fifth in the 3,000 meters with a time of 10:28.89, freshman Sydney Dawes took sixth place in the 800 meters with a time of 2:18.82 and freshman Carissa Schurr finished ninth in the 800 meters with a time of 2:23.18.

Junior Sarah Utchel finished in eighth place in the 60-meter dash finals with a score of 7.97.

"The Grand Valley meet was a great showing for the women's team, especially with it being the first meet back and for most of us the first time even getting onto a track this winter. I think we all ran really well," senior long-distance runner Kelly Babcock said.

Both the men's and women's teams would then compete at Saginaw Valley State University (Jan. 26-27).

The Ferris women won the distance medley relay with the team of Dawes, Salix Sampson, Schurr and Kylie Hutchinson with a time of 12:29.96.

Etelamaki finished fifth in the 3,000 meters with a time of 10:02.17, which beat her personal-best time by 15 seconds. Schurr came in sixth place in the women's 800 meters with a personal-best time of 2:16.42. Ferris sophomore Hannah Price finished in eighth place in the 60-meter hurdles and set her own personal-best time at 9.68.

On the men's side, Cook tied for first in the high jump. Williams finished sixth in the long jump with 6.88 meters and Holowaty took 11th place in the men's 3,000 meters with a time of 8:35.36.

Stilwell managed to reach the NCAA Division II National Provisional Qualification mark with his weight throw of 19.07 meters and was the runner-up in the event.

The teams will be back in action on Friday, Feb. 9, and Saturday, Feb. 10, as they head back to Allendale for the GVSU Big Meet.



Kelly Babcock

Building a foundation for the future



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Junior guard Margo Brown drives to the paint in a game against the Lake Superior State Lakers.

Kendra Faustin compares recent success to previous seasons

Jessica Brown
Interim Reporter

The Ferris women's basketball team has found a way to regain strength after their dismal season last year.

Standing with a current record of 10-9, the team has already doubled their overall total win count from last season at 5-22. So what has contributed to this success?

"Number one is going to be the players," Head Coach Kendra Faustin said. "We had some great additions and our players had a great summer and got better both on and off the court. With that said, number two is culture. We've spent a lot of time just working on what we're about, what we stand for and who we are."

Faustin is no stranger to the hardwood, having played collegiate basketball herself.

A four-year starter at Lake Superior State University, Faustin was selected the Lakers' Co-Most Valuable Player after the 2001 season while also serving as team co-captain. She instills that same leadership within her players and throughout her coaching style.

"At this level, it really is about student led leadership. Our upperclassmen and our captains are some very special kids. They have really acknowledged what we are about and

have encouraged and demanded that others get on board," Faustin said.

The Bulldogs had only one win at home last season compared to their seven wins at home this season. Faustin says that playing second at home has helped their team tremendously.

"We start our games better, we're more confident and I haven't noticed a huge mass exodus at our games. Our attendance is up from last year," Faustin said.

With the recent loss against rival Grand Valley, the Bulldogs have some catching up to do. However, Faustin wants her players to know that it isn't about the wins and the losses. At the end of the day she just wants her players to learn and to grow.

"We're not doing drastically different things than we've done in the past. We've spent a lot of time and effort building our culture and talking about what's important. Culturally it's about wins and losses. But that's a lot of pressure for student athletes. People say you have to do things a certain way and check all the boxes. We're not here to check boxes. We're here to be our best and if our best isn't good enough, then we'll figure out how to get better," Faustin said.



Top Dawg

Coale Norris & Ryker Killins

Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Brendan Samuels
Sports Editor

A big weekend for Ferris hockey lands the team not one but two Top Dawg recipients.

The Bulldogs entered play against the Michigan Tech. Huskies in search of a sweep to improve their ranking in the WCHA. Impressive play from freshman forward Coale Norris and junior defenseman Ryker Killins helped them do just that.

The Friday, Jan. 26, matchup saw plenty of scoring with the Dawgs coming out on top by a score of 4-3. Killins owned the night, stuffing the stat sheet with two power-play goals in the second period and adding an assist as well. Norris had a power-play goal of his own in the second period and assisted on one of Killins' twine-ticklers.

Norris rolled his play over into Saturday, Jan. 27, for a 3-1 victory. The freshman netted his seventh career goal in the second period on a nice assist from Killins to complete the sweep.

The Dawgs exit the weekend with a 12-17-1 overall record and a conference record of 9-12-1. With the back-to-back victories, Ferris jumps two teams—Alabama-Huntsville and Alaska—to land sixth in WCHA standings.

With just six games remaining on the season, the Bulldogs will be looking to propel themselves into the post-season.

Ferris will be back in action at 11:07 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, when they take travel to Fairbanks, Alaska to take on the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Nanooks.

Sports Shorts

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

Call me commissioner

Ferris senior linebacker Nick Huckabay and Ferris junior defender Carley Dubbert were awarded the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Commissioners award for their respective seasons in the fall of 2017.

The GLIAC presents the award to six male and female students who do well both on and off the field after the fall, winter and spring athletic seasons. Huckabay led the Bulldogs in tackles with 99 this season, helping the Bulldogs

to the Division II Quarterfinals. Dubbert led the Bulldogs with nine goals and three assists as the Bulldogs just missed out on their first ever NCAA tournament appearance.

Feeling good

68 Ferris athletes were honored as GLIAC All-Academic and All-Academic Excellence team for the fall athletic season.

Six Ferris programs were home to athletes recognized by the conference. Football, volleyball, soccer, women's tennis and both men's and women's cross country teams were all host to athletes honored by the GLIAC. Ferris athletes combined for an impressive 3.19 grade point average for the fall semester.

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FERRIS STATE
TORCH

Dawgs reign supreme

Ferris defeats Lake Superior State to stay No. 1 in GLIAC

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

The nationally fourth-ranked Ferris men's basketball team is coming off a 78-67 victory Sunday, Jan. 28, over the Lake Superior State University (LSSU) Lakers in Wink Arena.

The highly anticipated "fight for first" matchup between the Lakers and the Bulldogs men's teams to see who would take the top spot in the GLIAC did not disappoint.

Earlier this year, the Lakers handed the Bulldogs their first and only loss of the season in a 79-74 final on Dec. 16 at Bud Cooper Gymnasium in Sault Ste. Marie.

The matchup on Jan. 28 featured the GLIAC's top two scoring attacks in the league. Ferris came into the contest in first place averaging 83.9 points per game and LSSU was second averaging 81.0 points per game.

The Bulldogs dominated the first half of play and took a 39-21 lead heading into the locker room. The Lakers, however, would receive a spark of their own as they cut the lead to three points late in the second half. The Bulldogs dominant offense and clutch free-throw shooting would prove to be too much for the Lakers in the end as the Bulldogs came out on top.

Ferris was lead in scoring by junior center Zach Hankins, who put up 24 points along with five blocks. Senior forward Noah King finished second in scoring with 14 points and a duo of senior guards in Drew Cushingberry and Peter Firlik added 10 points each.

"I thought we played really well in the first half. We knew that they were going to make a run just like any other good team and they are a good team but we stopped the run and got stops and rebounded to finish out the game," Firlik said. "We played good defense on their shooters and best players and it was a great team win for us."

The Bulldogs improved to 21-1 overall on the season with the win and

11-1 in GLIAC play to remain at the top of the standings. The Bulldogs also improved to 12-0 this season.

"Our team chemistry is our best attribute. We play together and we're all unselfish," junior forward Andrew Meacham said. "When you're on the court, you just know that every single guy out there has got your back. If one of our players is having an off night, we know someone else will pick them up. It's that feeling of togetherness that I think sets us apart from the rest of the teams."

Last year, the team reached the NCAA-II Midwest Regional Semifinals for the second-straight year under head coach Andy Bronkema's direction.

They also posted a school record 18 GLIAC league wins and the historic season closed with Ferris posting a 28-5 overall record. The 28 wins were the most in school history and this season it looks as if they are poised to break that record.

"Coach Bronkema just keeps reminding us that everyone says that we are being hunted and that we are the team everyone wants to knock off," sophomore guard Greg Williams said. "He reminds us that it's not true and that we have to be the hunters and not the hunted. He tells us to just go out and attack, be aggressive and have more energy than the other team."

Ferris will remain at home for a two-game homestand against the Northwood University Timberwolves Thursday, Feb. 1, and the Saginaw Valley State Cardinals Saturday, Feb. 3, in Wink Arena.



Peter Firlik



Greg Williams



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Torch Photographer

Senior guard Drew Cushingberry pulls up on a jump-shot. After defeating the LSSU Lakers, the Bulldogs now have sole possession of the top spot in GLIAC standings.

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LIFESTYLES

"Doing random acts of kindness is important because it can bring happiness to someone's day." - Joshua Peoples - See page 15 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

Be our guest

An evening of masks and mystery



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Torch Photographer

The Murder Mystery Dinner is an evening where guests can dress up and masks are encouraged.

Kat Merby
Torch Reporter

Becoming a star performer or performing with extremely talented actors is a dream for many. The Murder Mystery Company theatre troupe is bringing that dream to life and to Ferris.

The Murder Mystery Company, which is a project under The American Immersion Theatre, has been around for 15 years. There are troupes all over the country but it was started in Grand Rapids by Scott Crampton with one goal in mind which still remains today.

"We want our guests to put down their cell phones for two hours to interact with people and use investigative skills," venue concierge and floor manager for the company Maggie Pook said.

Pook has been with the company for three years and recently moved to Grand Rapids looking for a job. She didn't know too much about the company but after seeing one of the shows, she fell in love with what they do.

The goal of the company is to give its attendees a unique and memorable experience through a live action performance of the classic board game Clue. Every person in the room is involved in some way. All of the troupes' actors and actresses go through special training to read body language and are excellent at improvisation.

"We perform with you as opposed to at you. We hand out murder suspect roles and there are some scripted lines but most of the time it is improvised. It is, at the essence, a game,"

actress, sales representative and social media specialist Annie Bulthuis said.

Bulthuis currently works at the headquarters during the week and does shows on the weekends. Even though Bulthuis gets to perform all over the world, such as the performances in the Middle East that she recently returned from, one of her favorite performances happened in Michigan.

"We did a show at the Grand Hotel in Mackinac Island. Everyone at the hotel was there for a mystery weekend. The show was an all weekend show so it was nonstop performing. If I wanted to have a break, I had to find somewhere to hide," Bulthuis said.

Packages for parties range from hundreds to thousands of dollars. It depends on how much immersion the host wants as well as the number of guests.

Most people dress up and there are nine standard themes that the client can choose from. There are secret themes that frequent hosts can choose from as well. At Ferris, it's Midnight at the Masquerade—a modern era theme that takes place at a billionaire's mansion during their annual club meeting.

To see some examples of the Murder Mystery Company's performances, check out their YouTube channel, "American Immersion Theatre."

The troupe will be at the Granger Center Atrium Feb. 10, from 8 to 11 p.m. There will be tea and desserts. Tickets are \$40 and proceeds benefit the students at Crossroad Charter Academy. Those attending are encouraged to dress up as if they were at a billionaire's banquet and wear masks.

Rising up

Music industry management program prospering

Jordan Johnigan
Interim Reporter

Music is ingrained in the psyche of the human mind, captivating and motivating countless individuals throughout the course of history. The music industry management program's On the Rise showcase aims to further foster this success by inspiring the student body as well as the youth of our generation.

On the Rise is a two-show event featuring soon-to-be

breakout artists Michigander and Jake Kershaw. Moving away from a previously independent-only platform, this year's event allows artists under a label to perform as well, giving Ferris students that indie rock sound with a higher quality production and stage presence.

"We're looking for artists that are on the verge of breaking through. Jake Kershaw is a sixteen-year-old guitar phenomenon and he won't be on this level of performance for very long," Ferris assistant professor and music industry management program director Paul Kwant said.

Although the music industry program has been present

at Ferris for over 20 years, it has undergone significant growth in recent years.

"We're trying to be more inclusive. Nothing is out of the question. Everyone can suggest whatever they want. More industry professionals [are getting] involved in more events," Ferris music industry management sophomore Alyssa Bala said.



Taylor Funari

"It's different from just participating to being behind the scenes, booking the artist, the venue and making sure the contracts are alright. It was eye opening to see how hard you have to work to make your vision realized," Ferris music industry management sophomore Taylor Funari said.

On the Rise will take place Thursday, Feb. 1, and Feb. 15. Any local high school student enrolled in music classes will receive one free ticket to the show while admission tickets are priced at \$5 apiece. The show will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and will be followed by a Q&A session with the artists.



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Reid hopes "Pretend We are Lovely" is a novel that many who've dealt with dieting or sizeism can connect with.

You are lovely

A novel with mystery and life lessons

Alicia Jaimes
Lifestyles Editor

After reading Noley Reid's novel "Pretend We are Lovely," Ferris assistant professor Deirdre Fagan invited Reid to speak at Ferris' Literature in Person event.

"I read it last summer and was blown away by its aching beauty. I couldn't put the book down—the writing was so breathtakingly powerful," Fagan said. "It was shortly after reading 'Pretend We are Lovely' that I invited Reid to come to Ferris."

"Pretend We are Lovely" is a novel about two sisters, an estranged father, a mother and a deceased brother. The story not only dives into the mysterious death of their sibling but with two girls entering middle school, they must also find their way while battling what seems to be the start of eating disorders.

"The daily necessities of life are often the things we struggle with the most when faced with trauma or stress, as I know our students can attest. Reid taps into the central connection we all have to food and develops it in unexpected and varied ways throughout the novel," Fagan said.

Hoping the book will touch the hearts of those who've dealt with

dieting or sizeism, Reid connects with them through her own experience in that field.

"I'd spent two years aggressively restricting calories and over-exercising in order to lose 181 pounds. It was never enough, though. What I thought would finally bring me love was never good enough, and what if it had anyway? At some point, I spun out of control," Reid said.



Noley Reid

A book created with the intention of becoming a moving story that gives insight into what many people have struggled with their whole lives: what thin is the right amount of thin?

"Reid is a brilliant and sensitive writer whose work students would greatly benefit from reading and hearing," Fagan said.

Sponsored by The Department of Languages and Literature, Author Noley Reid: a Literature in Person event will happen Monday, Feb. 5, from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Fine Art Gallery, UCB 205. The book will be available to buy at the Ferris Bookstore and a signing will be held afterwards.

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Paying it forward

Everyone deserves a little kindness

Holly Baker
Torch Reporter

Keynote speaker Hannah Brancher's "More Love Letters" intrigued many students Wednesday, Jan. 24, with the aspect of writing love letters to complete strangers.

"I'm not talking about love letters like the romantic ones you see on Valentine's Day. I'm talking about letters that thank people for waking up in the morning, that thank people for getting out of bed and putting two feet on the ground no matter how hard it is, because a lot of us know how that feels," Brancher said to her captivated audience.

"It was really emotional and inspirational—it almost made me cry. The stories were really sad. I think writing the letters was my favorite part. It seemed special to do for someone that I didn't even know," Ferris social work freshman Emily Sudinski said.

Brancher is the founder of an organization that sends love letters all over the country to people who need them.

Individuals can elect their friends or family who are in need and out of the elected people, eight to 10 get published to the website every month, inviting people to anonymously send letters of encouragement to them. Events and goals like these are what remind students of times when acts of kindness happened to them.

"I didn't necessarily have a favorite part but it got me thinking about a time where someone paid for my food randomly and how nice it was. A kind of 'pay it forward' type of deal. Doing random acts of kindness is important because



Photo by: Marcus Gurnee | Torch Photographer

Students were able to end the evening writing letters to complete strangers in hopes of brightening someone's day.



Joshua Peoples

it can bring happiness to someone's day," Ferris computer information systems freshman Joshua Peoples said.

Brancher goes to college campuses inspiring students to join the love letter movement by personal testimonies.

"I think it can be very influential to anyone, depending on where they are at in their lives. Freshmen could use it as motivation for the next few years just depending on

how they take it. I would've liked to have gone to it my freshman year. People could use the information on the small things in life because getting somewhere in life isn't about the big jumps—it's about the small stuff and she touched on that very well," Ferris plastics engineering senior Ben Lether said.

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY IMAGINE MORE

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