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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES

Teenage survivors from the mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, are facing off against adults trying to discredit them. Read about what some have been accusing them of online.

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WE ARE ONE

The African Student Union hosts a celebration of African culture complete with authentic cuisine and traditional dress.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 14

Big budget cuts

Reduced enrollment forces Ferris to cut millions

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Ferris is making plans to reduce the university budget by upwards of 10.5 percent over the next four years.

In the last two years, Ferris has reduced the university budget by \$9.25 million and is likely to continue on that pace for the next four years. On Wednesday, Feb. 21, and Thursday, Feb. 22, Ferris President David Eisler held a total of three presentations for faculty and staff about the state of the budget at Ferris.

At those meetings, Eisler discussed that the university is planning to make cuts of \$4 million or \$5 million in each of the next four years—totaling between \$17 million and \$20 million.

"I'm grateful for the work you do. This is not an easy message to deliver and it's certainly a sobering message to hear but I believe in our university, I believe in our people, I believe in our education and I believe in our students," Eisler said to a room packed with faculty and staff.

As of the 2017-18 academic year, Ferris has a budget of \$211.4 million. If the maximum predicted cuts of \$20 million occur, during the 2021-22 academic year Ferris will be working with an operating budget 10.5 percent smaller than the current budget. While it is still unknown which areas will see cuts, some faculty members at Ferris are worried about what it could mean for their jobs and for the university.

During the final budget presentation, Ferris custodial worker Jeff Morey addressed President Eisler with concerns about the shrinking number of custodial workers on campus.

"We're losing position after position in the custodial field. A good example is the SRC, just one of many: four people used to be on the main floor of the SRC for a seven-day-a-week operation. We now have two people there for a seven-day operation and the building is going to get bigger," Morey said. "The bottom line is we're going to lose more custodials based on this new down drop and it's really disheartening watching our areas go down the toilet."

The cuts are part of a plan to

Budget | see page 2

Swept into the playoffs



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Freshman forward Lucas Finner comes to a halt on the ice. The Ferris men's hockey team is feeling good after a weekend sweep has them in the WCHA playoffs.

Dawgs earn rematch with Bowling Green

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

Ferris hockey can take a sigh of relief after clinching a playoff spot with a sweep of Lake Superior State University Friday, Feb. 23, and Saturday, Feb. 24.

Not only did the Bulldogs clinch a playoff spot but they moved all the way up to sixth place in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) after Alaska and Alabama-Huntsville failed to hold on to their spots ahead of Ferris.

The Bulldogs were in danger of missing the playoffs all together heading into the matchup with LSSU, who went into the weekend just a single point behind Ferris for the eighth and final spot in the WCHA playoffs.

"They were pretty desperate for the win. They needed that to have a shot at getting into the playoffs still, yet we needed it to move up in the standings and we wanted to climb as high as we could. I give our guys a lot of credit, I thought they played well," Ferris Head Coach Bob Daniels said.

LSSU had won four straight games and the Bulldogs were losers of four straight, before the Bulldogs got back on track Feb. 23 with a 4-1 victory. The Bulldogs kept it going on Feb. 24 with a 4-2 victory to earn the sweep.

Saturday night also recognized all seven senior members of the Bulldog team—Tyler

Andrew, Drew Dorantes, Tyler Dorantes, Mitch Maloney, Andrew Mayer, Zach Szajner and Trace Pennock—for senior night in front of the crowd. All seven players were a part of the 2016 WCHA championship team.

"They are a pretty decorated group. They've won a conference championship, been to an NCAA regional tournament. They were big this weekend. They've meant a lot and they've been great Bulldogs. They're great students and they're all going to graduate on time and they're all going to be very successful when their playing days are done," Daniels said.

The Bulldogs are scheduled to play at Bowling Green State University in the first round of the WCHA playoffs in a best-of-three series in a rematch of last year's first round. The Falcons took care of Ferris last year with a two-game sweep in the opening round.

The trip might present a unique challenge for the Bulldogs as freshmen on the team have not yet played at Slater Family Ice Arena.

"I think we just have to stick to what we're doing, we're coming off some momentum here. I've never played at Bowling Green. I've heard it's a pretty good atmosphere. We're going to prep all week and be ready to roll," Ferris freshman Coale Norris said.

The Bulldogs hope to get some revenge on the Falcons in hopes of making a playoff run. With the shaky regular season, Ferris will need to win the Broadmoor trophy as WCHA champions to earn a place in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament.

In 2016, the Bulldogs went in as the fourth seed to the WCHA Final Five before upending No. 1 Minnesota State at Van Andel Arena to claim the Broadmoor trophy. That team beat St. Cloud State in the opener before losing to Denver in the NCAA West Regional Final.

"We're going to have to play Bulldog hockey. It's hard 60 minutes of getting pucks deep and to the net and working your butt off the entire game. We should be alright," Ferris goaltender Darren Smith said.

For now, the Bulldogs have their eyes set on BGSU with game one set for 8:07 p.m. Friday, March 2.

Game two will follow at 7:07 p.m. Saturday, March 3. If necessary, the two teams will battle it out in a win-or-go-home game three, which would take place at 7:07 p.m. Sunday, March 4. All games will be played at Slater Family Ice Arena in Ohio.



Coale Norris



Darren Smith

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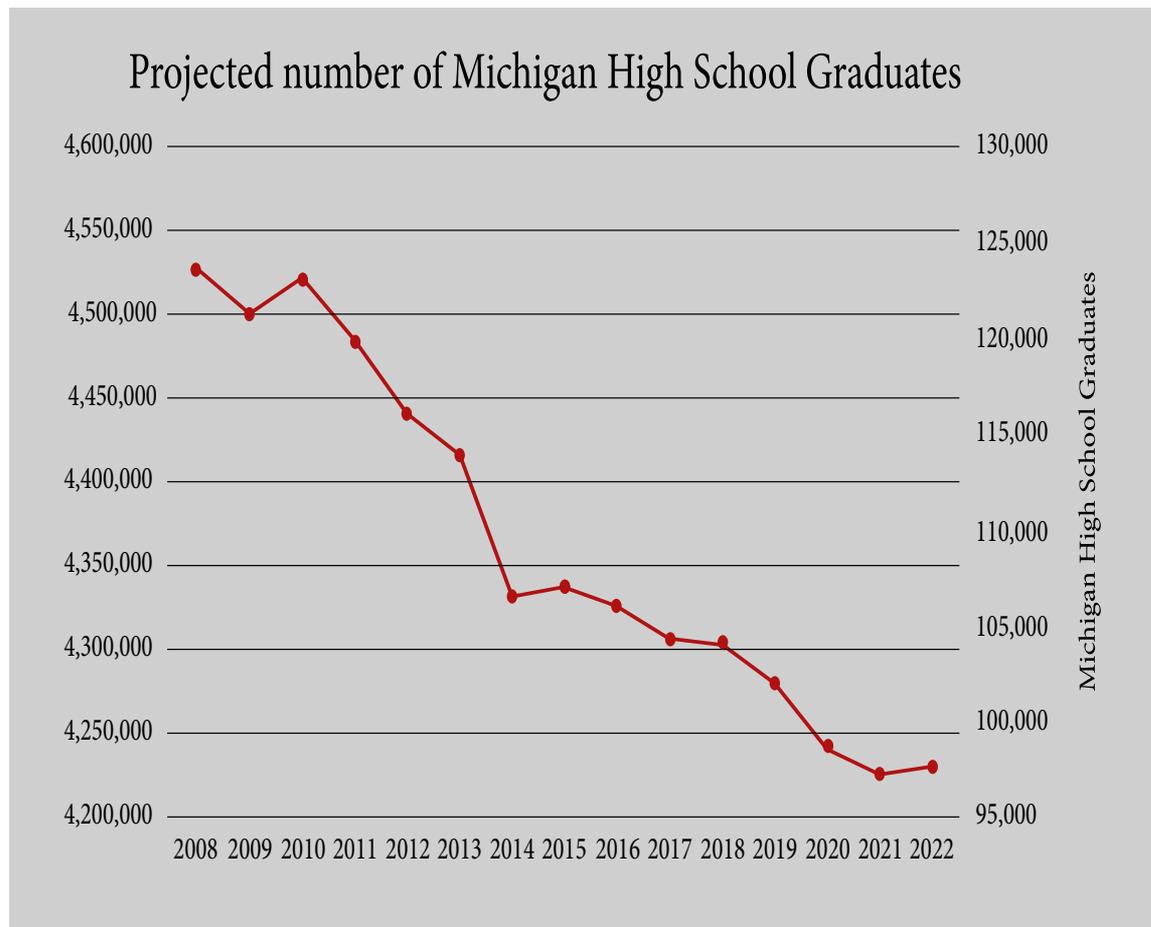
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NEWS

“Sexism hurts men too, just as much, you could argue, as women.”
- Tracy Busch - See page 5 for story

Harley Harrison | News Editor | harrih12@ferris.edu



The above information is courtesy of Ferris State University.



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Ferris President David Eisler speaks to faculty and staff about future budget cuts.

Budget

Continued from page 1

combat the continuous decrease in Michigan high school graduates, which is impacting college enrollment. Tuition makes up 76 percent of Ferris' general fund and the university has seen a 10.3 percent decrease in first time in any college (FTIAC) students since 2013 and a decline of 19,754

student credit hours since 2014. Ferris is pushing hard to increase enrollment in order to reduce budget cuts but enrollment has declined in almost every Michigan university this year and high school graduation rates are predicted to continue a steady decline over the next few years as well.

Enrollment is unlikely to increase any time soon and until there is a change in that trend, Ferris will have to continue to find ways to pinch pennies for the foreseeable future.

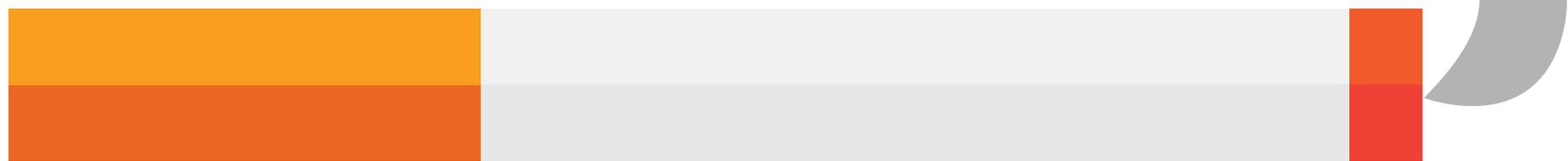
These changes have some students worried about what

this will mean for the university.

“I think that we already have a really low budget school and it’s just going to get progressively worse,” Ferris welding engineering freshman Christian Bottke said. “I think that they already don’t spend enough money on almost anything here at Ferris and that just about everything needs more money. So no, I don’t see any areas that are wasting, just areas that need more money.”

A hazy future

Campus smoke and tobacco free policy under review



Torch File Graphic

Cora Hall

Torch Reporter

Students continue to flaunt their cigarettes, suorins, juuls and vapes around campus while the smoke and tobacco free campus policy is under review by Vice President Jerry Scoby.

Ferris public health senior and president of the Public Health Student Association (PHSA) Alyson Hill said she hopes that the proposed policy will be approved by the end of this semester and implemented by the following academic year.

“We have not gotten the Department of Public Safety (DPS) involved yet because our policy has not been approved,” Hill said. “However, when it does we will be meeting with them so they are aware of policies enforcement and regulations.”

Last semester, Ferris received a grant from the American Cancer Society to initiate a 100 percent smoke and tobacco-free campus policy. Students in PHSA were given the re-

sponsibility of the grant and how the policy is enforced. As the policy is still under review, the specifics are unclear.

Some students who heard that DPS may be involved in the enforcement of the policy were not happy about the potential results.

“I think the policy is unnecessary, so by virtue of that I don’t think it would be fair to get DPS involved. It’s not a safety thing,” Ferris history junior Stephen Bottke said. “The worst that one can say about it is second-hand smoke and while in close quarters for extended periods of time that’s a problem, the little whiff of tobacco or steam one might get a hundred feet in another direction wouldn’t do any more harm than fluoride in drinking water.”

Ferris clinical laboratory science freshman Paige Lintemuth expressed that she thinks that as long as people aren’t harming others on campus or being rude about it, DPS doesn’t need to be involved.



Paige Lintemuth

“Preferably, I don’t think I would like tobacco use on campus but it’s kind of everyone’s choice so I don’t feel like I have a right or say in that because that is their personal choice,” Lintemuth said. “I just wish we had more defined areas for them to do that so they’re not just walking around and you’re walking through smoke and everything. So personally, I don’t have a big deal with it as long as they’re courteous with it and try not to harm other people.”



Stephen Bottke

PHSA plans to do another clean up during the first week of April and will also have a table in the University Center for Kick Butts Day from 1 - 7 p.m. on March 21.

“People can show support by signing the petition for a tobacco-free campus, show support for tobacco users and learn about the health and environment risks that tobacco has on our campus and our students, faculty, staff and visitors,” Hill said.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Harley Harrison
News Editor

United States

The aftermath of the Florida school shooting that left 17 people dead and 16 injured has sparked a heavy debate about gun control and background checks. The deadly shooting led President Trump to meet with some of the survivors as students across the nation hosted school walk-outs and protests. Many states are now considering Red Flag laws and other legislature to protect public schools.

Original story by Julie Turkewitz and Anemona Hartoscollis, Feb. 20, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Britain

The famous fast food restaurant, KFC, was forced to close roughly half of their 900 restaurants in Britain after encountering a chicken shortage. The shortage comes after major logistical failure when the chain switched suppliers. Many stores opted for a limited menu, while others closed completely, which caused much frustration with customers.

Original story by Kimiko de Freytas-Tamura and Amie Tsang, Feb. 20, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Lima, Peru

Approximately 44 people are dead and nearly 20 people are injured after a passenger bus fell off the famous cliff known as “devil’s curve.” Peruvian citizens are outraged, as this marks the second deadly incident since the beginning of 2018, the first one occurring in January when 51 people died after a bus drove off the cliff on a foggy day. Advocates are calling for authorities to take action and provide more safety measures for the road.

Original story by Marcelo Rochabrún, Feb. 21, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Podgorica, Montenegro

An attacker is dead after he threw an explosive device into the United States Embassy before killing himself with yet another explosive. Fortunately, the attack occurred at midnight when the building was empty, and the explosive device only reached the grounds near the building. There is minor damage to the embassy courtyard and there was no damage done to the building.

Original story by Barbara Surk, Feb. 21, 2018. *The New York Times*.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Bad boys, whatcha gonna do?

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Possession in Pickell

Feb. 17, 4:08 p.m., officers assisted staff in Pickell Hall with a subject who possessed drugs that violated controlled substance laws. The subject was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Bad boys, whatcha gonna do?

Feb. 17, 11:09 p.m., officers investigated a controlled substance and narcotics equipment violation at the intersection of State Street and South Street. One subject was

arrested.

Misconduct

Feb. 20, 3:33 p.m., officers responded to a report of criminal sexual conduct in Cardinal Court. The investigation is still open.

Another one

Feb. 21, 12:09 p.m., officers assisted staff in McNerney Hall with a report of criminal sexual conduct. One warrant request was submitted to the prosecutor’s office.

NEWS BRIEFS

Harley Harrison
News Editor

LGBTQ+ Resource Center open house

Explore the new LGBTQ+ Resource Center from 4 - 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28 in the University Center. Attendees can meet the staff and enjoy rainbow inspired refreshments. For more information, please contact Kendree Berg at KendreeBerg@ferris.edu.

FSU Jazz Band winter concert

Enjoy free admission to the FSU Jazz Band winter concert from 8 - 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28, in the University Center Ballroom. Questions for additional information can be directed to Matt Moresi at MattMoresi@ferris.edu.

OMSS: 20th Century Print Advertisements Aimed at Women

Join the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) for a conversation about advertisements aimed at women from 11 - 11:50 a.m. on Thursday, March 1, in University Center Room 213. Contact Michael Wade at omss@ferris.edu for more information.

A taxing task

Students lack knowledge about taxes



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

In addition to spring approaching, another season is consuming Americans—tax season.

Ferris accounting professor James Shimko thinks that everyone should be knowledgeable on how to do their taxes.

“It’s something everyone has to do and everyone should be at least familiar with the process. It’s something that you don’t want to forget about and ignore,” Shimko said.

Yet, education on taxes is not widespread. Many students lack

the knowledge necessary to file taxes on their own. This is true of Ferris biochemistry sophomore Emily Proksch, who is filing her taxes for the first time this year but will not be doing it alone.

“I have not done taxes yet before. My parents are going to help me,” Proksch said.

Other students lack this experience and rely on their parents for help, as well. Ferris sports communication sopho-



James Shimko

more Celeste Moore said she has never had to file taxes before because she doesn’t work. However, she said her parents will help her when the time comes.



Emily Proksch

“My mom does them but I’ve never sat down with her and paid attention. My parents will probably help. I think a lot of people need help with

Taxes | see page 4

Torch Corrections

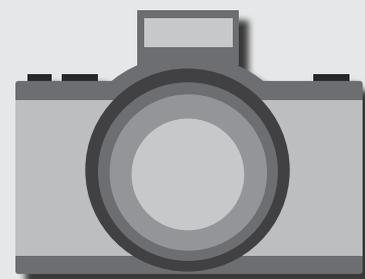
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The Presidential Playmate

An alleged affair with Ferris alumna

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

Big Rapids has made its way to the White House, as a recent scandal surrounding President Donald Trump involves a former Ferris student.

Karen McDougal, a former Playboy Playmate and 1998 Playmate of the Year, studied education and human services at Ferris from 1989 to 1992, according to Ferris Alumni Relations. She left Ferris before receiving a degree.

McDougal made recent news after an article was published Feb. 16 by The New Yorker stating that she allegedly had an affair with Trump in June of 2006. The article includes a document handwritten by McDougal that describes the affair, which was provided to The New Yorker by McDougal's friend John Crawford, according to the article.

According to The New Yorker, a White House spokesperson denies that Trump had an affair with McDougal.

"This is an old story that is just more fake news. The President

says he never had a relationship with McDougal," the spokesperson said, according to The New Yorker.

Despite McDougal's alum status, some students don't think her connection to Ferris is notable.

"I do not believe Karen McDougal's connection to Ferris should carry any significance," Ferris business administration junior Lukas Sizemore said. "I would prefer Ferris alums to be in the news for professional achievements rather than allegations of affairs. This would have a much greater impact on the university."



Lucas
Sizemore

Sizemore also believes that the allegation is insignificant when viewing Trump's presidency as a whole.

"Would an extramarital affair in 2006 have an impact on any of the policies or changes I want to see in 2018 and beyond? Absolutely not. I voted for someone who I thought would give me the best economy to begin my professional career in. I did not vote for someone to be my moral compass," Sizemore said.

McDougal was unavailable to comment.



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Ferris alum Karen McDougal is alleged to have had an affair with President Trump in 2006.

Taxes

Continued from page 3

that. If it wasn't for their parents, they wouldn't know," Moore said.

Shimko believes students should learn from their parents and be involved in filing their taxes.

"Students should definitely be involved, even if their parents do it, because it's their taxes. So being able to understand when you graduate and not working with your parents, you should be learning about it and eventually helping your parents do it," Shimko said.

Shimko advises students to try MyFreeTaxes.com, a free online tax filing service. The website, sponsored by United Way and H&R Block, allows people with an income lower than \$66,000 to file their state and federal taxes for free.

"A lot of people around this campus or even in the community could qualify for that and they don't use it. Of course, that's a self-prepare system but most people have it simple enough that they just have to enter the data that they get on their W-2 and answer a few questions and then they're ready to file. To me, if you're new and starting it and want to do it yourself, that's the best place to start," Shimko said.

Other software students can use to file taxes include TurboTax, Credit Karma and H&R Block.

As far as educating future generations on taxes, Proksch suggests that students would benefit from taking a class on the subject.

"Probably just have a basic general education class since no one really knows how to do their taxes. They just kind of figure them out on their own," Proksch said.

TAX TIPS FOR STUDENTS

DEPENDENCY: IF YOU ARE LISTED AS A DEPENDENT ON YOUR PARENTS' TAX RETURN, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TAX BREAKS.

SCHOLARSHIPS: APPLY FOR TAX-FREE SCHOLARSHIPS TO PAY YOUR WAY THROUGH COLLEGE.

SOFTWARE: USE FREE SOFTWARE TO FILE TAX RETURNS.

PREPARATION: START PREPARING EARLY AND FILE TAXES LONG BEFORE THE DUE DATE, APRIL 17.

The above information was gathered from creditkarma.com and nerdwallet.com.

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Women are wonderful



Torch file photo

The Museum of Sexist Objects will be featuring guided tours for Women's History month.

Events dedicated to Women's History month

Landry Shorkey
Interim Reporter

With the arrival of March comes the beginning of a special time to consider the impacts women have on society.

Women's History Month focuses on the progress women have made in their fight for equality and the progress that is still yet to be made. OMSS will be sponsoring a series of events to get students thinking about the importance of feminism.

"Just looking at certain professors at Ferris, it's like they get treated differently just because they're women. The industry I'm in is more of a male-dominated industry, so I guess those are things that we as a whole would have to change. It's hard to take out that stigma just because of how stereotypical people are these days. Women just don't get treated right all the time and I think that's something that should definitely be looked at and changed," Ferris construction management sophomore Matt Miller said.

The first step to change is recognizing the issues, which is the goal of many of the events that will be occurring on campus. There will be a film series addressing topics such as women's image in advertising and reproductive rights. Students can also attend The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap to learn about how women are disadvantaged in the workplace.

"There's a lot of education throughout the events

but there's also fun in it, too. You're learning while you're having fun. And it's also so important because women's history is—I don't want to say it's on the back burner but there's a lot of stuff that people don't know. Different people can come out and really learn some things, even if you think you know it, there's so much more out there," Ferris psychology junior and event coordinator for OMSS Destinee Hennings said.

One of the major opportunities available is the Ferris Museum of Sexist Objects. Hourly guided tours will be given March 20 and 22, focusing on the themes of rape culture, body image and the gender binary.

"I think we're all caught in the web of the gender binary. We all feel these expectations, like 'I'm male, therefore I must be this way. I'm female, therefore I must be that way' and it's a way to kind of step back, extricate yourself from those societal expectations and to see the pressures that we all face," Ferris associate professor of history and lead faculty for the museum Tracy Busch said.

"Sexism hurts men, too—just as much, you could argue, as women. Men are not able to express their full humanity if they're always supposed to be silent and tough. They can't cry, they can't nurture—so sexism hurts everybody in society. That's what I want people to see."

Students interested in visiting the museum should RSVP by emailing moso@ferris.edu.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Thursday, March 1

20th Century Print Advertisements Aimed at Women
11–11:50 a.m.
University Center 213

Tuesday, March 13

"Killing Us Softly 4"
Screening Times: 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
FLITE 135

Wednesday, March 14

The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap
Noon–2 p.m.
IRC Connector

Thursday, March 15

"Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise"
Screening Times: 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
FLITE 214

Tuesday, March 20

"Generation M - Misogyny in Media and Culture"
Screening Times: 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
FLITE 135

The Ferris Museum of Sexist Objects

2 p.m. theme "Body Image"
3 p.m. theme "the Gender Binary"
4 p.m. theme "Rape Culture"
STARR 314
*Please RSVP to moso@ferris.edu if you or your group would like to take a tour of the MoSo

T2P2: The Theater of Public Policy

5–7 p.m.
IRC 120

Wednesday, March 21

The Women's Advocacy, Education and Resource Fair
2–5 p.m.
IRC Connector

Thursday, March 22 - Sunday, March 25

The FSU Theatre Spring Show: Blue Stockings
7:30–10 p.m.
Williams Auditorium
\$5 for students, \$7 for community

Monday, March 26

A Tribute to Women
6–8 p.m.
University Center 202A

Tuesday, March 27

"Young Lakota"
Screening Times: 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
FLITE 135



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OPINIONS

“Connecting various passions in my life felt like a light bulb moment for me.”
- Megell Strayhorn - See page 7 for story

Marley Tucker | Opinions Editor | marleyitucker@gmail.com

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

I want to talk about a silly, Urban Dictionary word with a very real meaning behind it: gymtimidation. I've heard some people talking crap in recent weeks since Planet Fitness announced they were coming to town, and I'm beginning to lose my patience. Just because it's not geared toward giant, muscly, sweating, grunting men in tiny cut-off T-shirts doesn't mean it's not a "real gym."

I have struggled with my weight for years, going so far as to starve myself at one point, and I can say with some degree of certainty that walking into a gym as an out-of-shape woman can be a gut-wrenching, palm-sweating experience. I was talking to a friend from work just the other day that said she doesn't even feel comfortable going into the weight room at the Rec Center.

Gymtimidation

Nothing is scarier than a chick, in a sports bra and tiny shorts with a six-pack giving you side-eye in your sweatpants and baggy t-shirt while you try and figure out a new exercise machine. Beyond that, we have all seen pictures of overweight people at the gym, or people who don't know how to correctly use a piece of equipment being mocked on social media. It's horrible because that per-

son is just trying to better themselves, and it shouldn't happen but it does. This Tuesday I am going to work out with a couple of friends for the first time in a while and, even though I'm not going alone, I'm still a little apprehensive. This is a real thing that people struggle with and if you're rolling your eyes at this article, you are probably part of the problem.

Fighting for their lives

Listen to what they say, even if they're teenagers

I was sitting in Starbucks at the UC when I heard the news of a mass shooting. Lying in wait, news poured out of my headphones to tell me that an active shooter was terrorizing students and faculty at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.



Calling teenagers "crisis actors" to support some sort of conspiracy is wrong. Calling teenagers "desperate for attention" for staging high school walkout protests is wrong.

At CNN's town hall last week, teenagers and parents directly involved in the mass shooting questioned politicians. I was blown away by the students' hard hitting questions and determination. Unlike older generations who struggle to question the status quo, the teenagers didn't care about uncommitted answers or empty promises.

These teens are advocating for change and they aren't doing it sitting down. Survivors in Florida have already taken part in walkouts, rallies and trips to their state capitol. They are calling for a national school walkout on March 14th and a "March for Our Lives" protest in Washington D.C. on March 24.

These are not the actions of "lazy teenagers." These survivors will be able to vote in the 2020 presidential election and are fighting for their lives. We need to do our part to elevate their voices so that they have a seat at the table. It is on all of us to demand that politicians are held accountable. We have to work together to see change in the world.

Students should never feel unsafe or attend the funerals of their friends. They should never have to tweet goodbye through live shootings or text their family worrying that those will be the last words they'll ever send.

I forgot about homework and I neglected my coffee as my stomach dropped at what I was seeing. Twitter accounts of students trapped inside the school showed videos of dead and bloodied children. The reality of bullet holes in classroom computers sunk in as viewers saw the death toll rising overnight. Like some people living in the U.S., I don't find myself as surprised as I used to be about mass shootings. That's a big problem.

You know what else is a huge problem right now? Adults harassing teenagers on social media who are speaking out about their experience and pushing lawmakers to enact stricter gun laws. I am so angry that this is even an issue these teens are dealing with. Attacks from groups trying to discredit these students' validity are shameful.

A lot of discussions about national tragedy unfold on Twitter and Facebook. Why are people disrespecting these survivors because they are young? Age does not supersede what they went through or invalidate their trauma.

Conservative political commentator and author Dinesh D'Souza mocked affected high school students on Twitter by saying, "Worst news since their parents told them to get summer jobs." Donald Trump Jr. even liked two tweets that suggested David Hogg, a survivor, was "running cover" for his dad, who is apparently a former FBI agent.



carly
@car_nove

"I was hiding in closet for 2 hours. It was about guns. You weren't there, you don't know how it felt. Guns give these disgusting people the ability to kill other human beings. This IS about guns and this is about all the people who had their life abruptly ended because of guns."

893K

Sarah Chadwick
@sarahchad_

"Is your child texting about gun reform? LOL: lets get stricter background checks DTF: don't take money from the NRA BRB: ban rifles bro TTYL: Tomi Lahren stop talking"

22.6K

Stephen King
@StephenKing

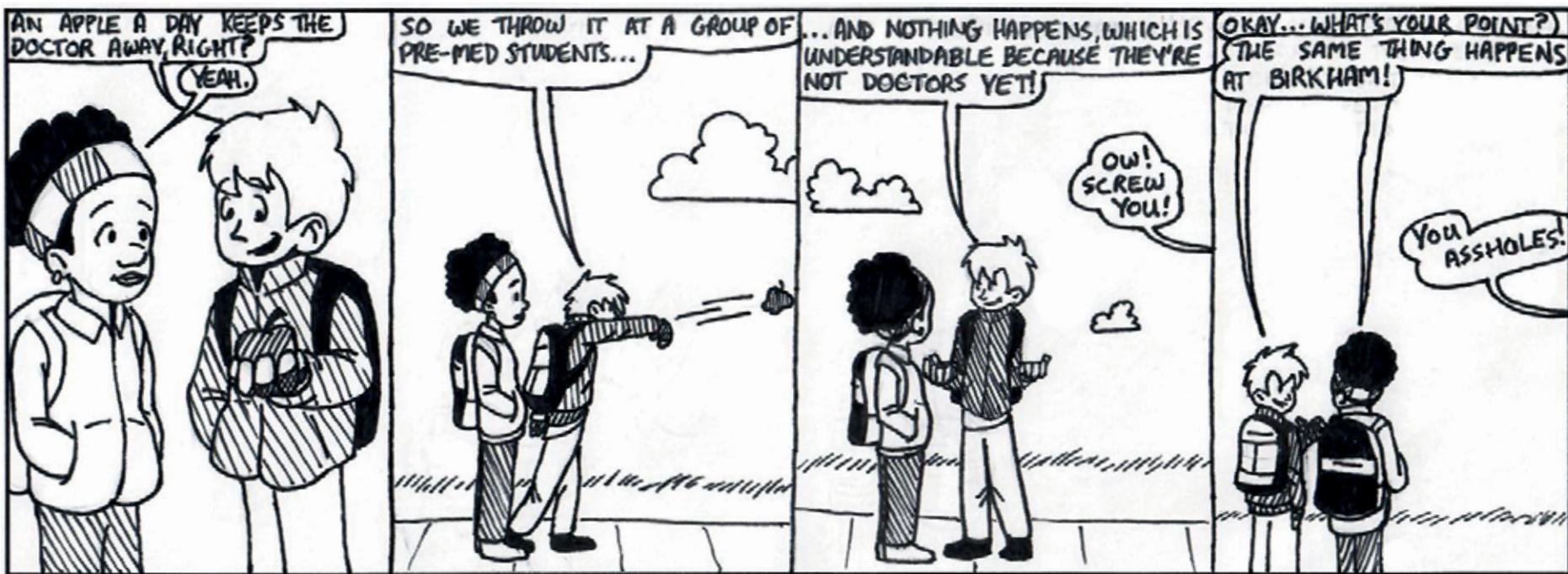
"The NRA thinking: 'They're just kids. They'll get all excited about their proms or their Facebook walls or something; maybe some new singer or fashion trend. Don't worry. They'll forget.' Not this time."

139K

David Hogg
@davidhogg111

"Promises without action are lies that cost lives. #neveragain"

126.5



Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

When push comes to shove

Challenge yourself to grow

Thinking back to high school or even my first year on campus, I never expected to be as involved as I am now. Of course, sitting in all those mandatory seminars as a freshman, I saw that people had benefited from joining registered student organizations but it never seemed like my thing.



Megell Strayhorn
Torch Photographer

During my freshman year, I was more excited about spending hours at the gym playing basketball and eating every other chance I got. The reality now is that I'm lucky if I can even get three days a week at the gym under my belt or three meals a day for that matter.

I had a clear understanding of what I wanted to do with my life is when I saw the benefit of joining an RSO. I always knew I wanted to be involved with business one way or another, so I first declared my major at Ferris as business administration. I started to realize that my natural passions for photography and social media were closely tied to marketing.

Connecting various passions in my life felt like a light bulb moment for me.

Before sending my advisor an email about my new ideas, I decided to take my first marketing course before completely switching over majors. After just a couple weeks, there was no doubt that I saw myself in the marketing arena.

I felt it was only right for me to join the American Marketing Association (AMA) after officially declaring myself a marketing major. It was definitely a big step in the right direction. At first, I admit to being a little shy and anxious because everyone had

been able to develop such tight relationships with each other.

I was one of the newest members of the RSO. No one likes that feeling. The RSO did a great job with being very open and making everyone feel welcome.

Since joining AMA, I've gotten wonderful opportunities to expand my participation on campus. On top of already working at the Market, I took on a photography position at the Torch, which has been an amazing experience so far.

Out of everything, I'm most excited about joining the recently started Entrepreneur Club. There, we'll be bringing ideas to life and competing with all schools in Michigan for the best submission.

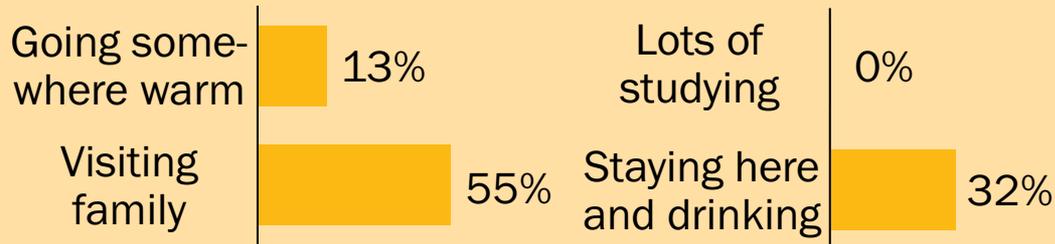
Involvement on campus can be an enriching experience and I am glad that I challenged myself. Overall, what I've learned from constantly pushing myself is that the things that scared me the most are what made me grow the most as well.

If you're ever the slightest bit interested in an RSO and you feel hesitant, just go for it! It doesn't need to be a life commitment.

Sample what different groups have to offer and give it a chance. If you aren't satisfied, taking that step may put you closer to what you're looking for. The semester might be almost halfway over but it's never too late to join in.

TORCH POLL RESULTS

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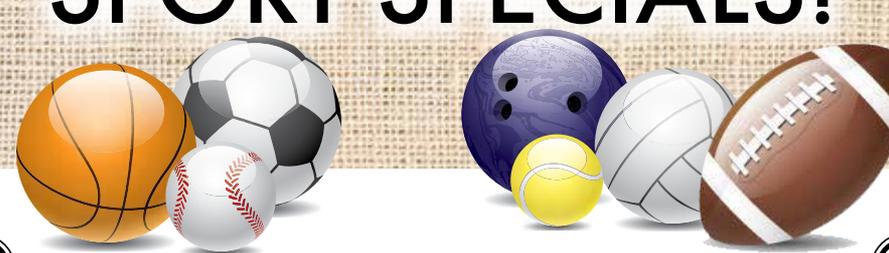
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Ferris State University Tire Fire

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Chasing a dream

Nonathletic Ferris student to forego remaining years of NCAA eligibility to make \$12,000 per year working at a gas station



Ferris plastics engineering sophomore Nathan Cubbers will be ditching his textbooks and aspirations for higher education for a name tag and minimum wage, part-time job at a gas station.

Randall Willenkompf
Better Than Some at Checkers

One Ferris student is making the inspiring choice to leave Ferris and chase his dreams.

Ferris plastics engineering sophomore Nathan Cubbers is choosing to forgo his remaining years of NCAA athletics eligibility to pursue a career working at a gas station in his home town.

"It was a tough choice to hang up the cleats for good but the fact that I've never played any organized sports and have never actually owned cleats has made it a bit easier to cope with," Cubbers said.

Cubbers will be selling off his 200-level textbooks, breaking his lease and crushing his family's

dreams of watching him graduate in favor of earning up to \$12,000 per year working a cash register.

"I really think my one-and-a-half years of higher education are going to come in handy working at the Stop N' Fill," Cubbers said. "My gen-ed speech class should help me sell more cartons of cigarettes and lottery tickets than anyone else and my boss has this incentive program for exactly that. I can get a \$25 bonus each month!"

Cubbers' manager was unavailable for comment, as he was dealing with an, "emergency situation" in the gas station bathroom after a fleet of truckers rolled through town.

Head coaches of every one of

the 15 recognized varsity sports and athletics administrators at Ferris were confused and enraged when reached for comment on Cubbers' decision.

"I've never heard of this kid in my life. He's definitely not an athlete so why is this at all relevant to me? Why would I or anybody else involved with athletics care if this kid wants to throw his aspirations away to work a part-time job? Please leave my office immediately," Ferris State Athletic Director Perk Weisenburger said.

At press time, Cubbers was seen trying to hang his framed Budweiser poster in his childhood bedroom alongside his dinosaur toys and race car bed.

HUGE SCANDAL:

Catering at 5-star event only has 3.6-star rating on Yelp
Pg. 2

Family members forced to endure the horrors Ferris students deal with on a daily basis during Residence Hall Association's "Sibs and Kids Weekend"
Pg. 3

Local girlfriend folds and unfolds same throw blanket 500 times per day throughout duration of winter
Pg. 4

Stuff happens and life continues unimpeded. Nothing matters.
Pg. 512

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.

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

It's #DartySzn, folks

If the weather gets sunny and above 40 degrees, day drinking begins

Regina Phallange

Aspiring Singer/Songwriter

When frat boys are seen on their porches before 4 p.m. with a Natural Light in hand, it can only mean one thing: darty szn is upon us.

Darty szn can be defined in layman's terms as "day-party season" and it is essentially any span of time when the weather reaches the appropriate temperature to merit drinking outside as soon as one rolls out of bed. This season appears at will in Michigan, especially in the spring, so students should keep a close eye on the forecast.

"Once I walk outside my door and I don't need multiple coats, that's how I know it's time to start shotgunning Nattys on my porch," Ferris undecided sophomore and Sigma Apple Pi brother Ricky Bobbie said.

With the weather getting warmer, students are reminiscing of the fall darty and tailgate season not too long ago as they look forward to this darty szn.

"Darty szn changed my life,"

Ferris pre-medicine junior Anita Knapp said. "I had no idea my body was capable of getting schwasted at 3 in the afternoon and again at 8 that night. The human body is truly amazing."

According to 99.9 percent of the ladies, the best parts of darty szn is the doggos that tag along. The easiest way to get drunk girls excited is to bring a four-legged ball of fur around. Fellas, take notes.

"Oh my gosh, when I see dogs at darties I just lose it," Ferris professional golf management freshman Joy Gilmore said. "They're just, like, so adorable, I can't even handle it."

A rising trend among darty-goers is fanny-packs. This versatile pouch from the 90s has become wildly popular among girls and can hold the essentials along with anything from extra vape juice to fruit snacks.

For students looking to join the darty szn craze, the next big opportunity is Ferris Fest on April 7.



After a long winter of slamming alcohol to numb one's body to the cold, Bulldogs are chomping at the bit to take the party outside.



Feature photo

There's a story behind this photo.

A *Tire Fire* reporter was wandering through the darkened halls of the allegedly haunted Alumni Building's basement when suddenly his phone's flashlight shone upon this beast.

This mural of a horrifyingly anthropomorphic bulldog was photographed in the former Ferris athletics weight room in the basement of the Alumni building.

The dog has human feet and toes, opposable thumbs and knees. If that doesn't creep you out enough, the bulging Speedo should.

This mural is testament to the fact that Ferris' oldest structure is haunted not by spirits but by the horrors of its past mistakes.

All is not well in Flavortown

Food Network star Guy Fieri bites off more than he can chew at Ferris' Quad Cafe



This is what Guy Fieri would look like without his trademark frosted tips and matching beard. Yep, exactly like your youth league soccer coach.

Mary Mancino
Professional Napper

The Quad is well known for its mediocrity and some townies must have talked it up, because Food Network sent one of their own to check it out.

Guy Fieri took a crew to check out the cafeteria on his famous show "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives." The man himself was confused on how to gain access to the cafeteria. Ferris business administration senior Cassandra Rome swiped him in.

"I saw this sad guy with frosted tips holding up the line at dinner, so I took pity on him and swiped him in so we could all eat," Rome said.

Fieri was excited and overjoyed to learn that brisket sandwiches were on the menu. With his famous enthusiasm, Fieri dived into his meal. What followed was described as "lewd and NSFW" by Ferris English freshman Doug Haskins.

"He let out this ungodly moan and I thought he was going to have sex with that sandwich for a hot second. I moved seats and steered clear of the filming crew. It was disgusting," Haskins said.

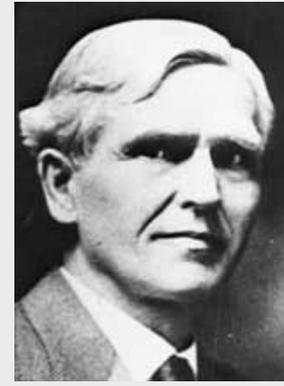
Haskins wasn't the only one who complained to management. Fieri was reprimanded and referred to the Ferris State Department of Public Safety for disturbing the peace. The footage of the event was filmed by his camera crew and leaked to TMZ, who revealed the footage and said that the scene caused half of the office to call out of work because of food poisoning.

The Quad saw an uptick in poor ratings on Yelp after the affair was shown on TV. With a lifetime ban from ever returning to Ferris' campus, Fieri drove off with a heavy heart and stomach.

In more positive news, fewer townies eat at the Quad now. Here's to celebrating the small victories.

Eisler Says:

"Can someone get Mother Nature a God damn therapist?"



Ask Woodbridge

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

"I'm getting ready to graduate this May and I've been having a lot of trouble locking down a job. I'm getting interviews and filling out applications like mad but I just can't seem to seal the deal. What should I do?"

- Hapless Heather

I would really like to give you advice on this but tbh, same.

- Woodbridge

"Are there any cool Ferris legends or rumors or anything that you can substantiate?"

- Corey the Conspirator

Dude, sit down and let me tell you a little story about a place called the Alumni Building. Not only did this thing survive when the rest of the campus burned to the freaking ground but it is 200 percent haunted and has the creepiest painting of my wife in the lobby. I begged them for years to take it down but they said it added character (aka nightmares).

Another great little tale is the rich alumnus that hides money on campus and sends desperate college students with tremendous amounts of debt on treasure hunts for \$20 bills. Have you ever heard of "The Hunger Games?" You can't make this shit up.

The third and most definitely real Ferris legend lies beneath the ground you stand on. Turns out, the entire foundation of campus is built upon underground catacombs filled with the skeletons of student who cheat on exams. Human bones can actually support a ton of weight, so it's a great way to cut costs and teach those academically dishonest bastards a lesson.

- Woodbridge

"I just bought a new Xbox One and it's been such a huge distraction for me. Don't get me wrong, I'm having a lot of fun but I'm a little worried it's going to hurt my grades. What can I do to stay focused on what's actually important?"

- Gamer Gage

If you're implying that anything is more important than the gamer life, I'm going to need you to get out, n00b. College is temporary, fame in the gaming world is slightly less temporary. Log as many hours as you can before the arthritis sets in. (This response was sponsored by Microsoft).

- Woodbridge

"Should I go to class today?"

- Lazy Lenny

If you're not already wearing pants, then no. If you are, take them off and see previous sentence.

- Woodbridge



Ferris State's 2-0 sweep of Lake Superior State University was either thanks to the will of God or the horrible stomach virus that afflicted the Lakers.

Divine indigestion

Ferris hockey confuses "miracle" game with severe flu afflicting opposing team

Isaac Wretch
Flu Fighter

Bulldog hockey defeated Lake Superior State University on Friday night in a 4-1 game described by the team as "miraculous" and not in the figurative sense.

"God loves hockey and He loves Ferris. He wanted us to make the playoffs, man. He helped us win this game," Ferris captain and junior forward Corey Mackin said in a post-game interview.

It was later found that the Lakers were actually overcome by a mysterious stomach flu that infected them in their locker room.

The game was delayed for 10 minutes after the Laker center puked right before the puck drop. For the first two periods, the Lakers were gagging and sweating way more than you should on an ice rink.

Ferris electrical engineering junior Hank Lorhen was just relieved to finally see the Bulldogs win from his seat in the Dawg Pound.

"Honestly, it was the most pathetic hockey game I've ever been to. The other team could barely even skate and we still let them score a goal," Lorhen said.

Mackin was seen Tebowing after he scored the Bulldogs' first two goals and then pointed to the ceiling.

Ferris senior forward Zack Szajner got on the board third for the Dawgs by scoring his first goal of the season.

"It was a miracle; I'm like blessed or something," Szajner said. "I mean, LSSU's goalie just collapsed right as I shot. That's a certified heavenly miracle."

Sensing foul play, Laker head coach Devin Wiltgamon removed a moldy ham sandwich from the visiting team's locker room and demanded that it be tested to see if it caused the illness in the team.

The sandwich was taken to Ferris' Birkam Health Center to be tested but it was never seen again. Birkam, however, did provide Wiltgamon with an answer, albeit not the answer he was looking for.

"The sandwich has herpes. We don't really know how but it does." Birkam nurse Kennedy Breeking said as Wiltgamon fumed in the lobby.

The diagnosis surprised no one.

At press time, the Bulldogs were seen praying for God to smile upon them again throughout the playoffs by sending a plague to all of their opponents.

Tire Fire Poll Results



When was the last time you called your mother?

It's been at least a week. I admit that I'm a degenerate.

11%

Many years. My mom is dead and I can't afford a seance on a student budget.

14%

Never. I have two dads and zero moms.

6%

It's been a while, but YOUR mom just hit me up last night.

69%

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

SPORTS

“We are so excited for the future because we know how far we can go and how much we can accomplish.” - Abby Nakfoor - See page 9 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

Punching the ticket



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Freshman guard Adrienne Anderson pulls up for a free-throw in a matchup with Purdue-Northwest. The women's basketball team just clinched their first GLIAC Tournament bid since the 2013 season.

Ferris women's basketball clinches GLIAC Tournament bid

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

The Ferris women's basketball team clinched their first Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Tournament bid for the first time since 2013 with a weekend split against Purdue University Northwest and Grand Valley State University.

The squad dominated the PUN Pride Thursday, Feb. 22 with an 83-47 victory. The women would then suffer a tough 77-64 loss against archrival GVSU Saturday, Feb. 24.

Despite the loss, the Bulldogs honored their three seniors who have given so much to the program over their time at Ferris. The team honored senior center Rachel McInerney, senior guard Leah Humes and former player and current student-assistant coach Hannah Evo.

The team finished the season 14-14 overall and 8-12 in GLIAC play. With the win against PUN, the team clinched the

No. 7 seed in the GLIAC Tournament.

“We've been through a lot the past few years but have continued to work hard every single day and the whole time we kept telling ourselves ‘trust the process, our hard work will pay off’—and this year we have been seeing those results and it feels great,” Ferris junior forward Abby Nakfoor said.



Margo Brown

This is a team that has done a complete 360 in comparison to last season. Last year, the team finished the season 5-22 and ranked in the bottom in almost every category in the GLIAC statistics.

“It is such a feeling of accomplishment to be able to make the playoffs for the first time in five years. We have worked so hard for this and all the work behind the scenes is finally being showcased,” Ferris junior guard Riley Blair said.

The team has proven they are a competitive group and have changed the culture of Ferris women's basketball completely.



Abby Nakfoor

“It is something we've been trying to achieve since we've been here. It is so exciting to make it to the conference tournament because of all the hard work we have put in over the past couple years and now it has finally paid off,” Ferris junior guard Margo Brown said. “We are so excited for the future because we know how far we can go and how much we can

accomplish.”

The No. 7 seed Bulldogs will travel to take on the No. 2 seed Michigan Tech Huskies at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28, in the Student Development Complex Gymnasium in Houghton.

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It's time to vote for your favorite person, place or thing!

To be eligible for the drawing you must fill out at least 75% of the poll. The Pioneer employees and families are not eligible to vote. All entries must be turned in or postmarked by Friday, March 23, 2018.

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Top Dawg

Lily George

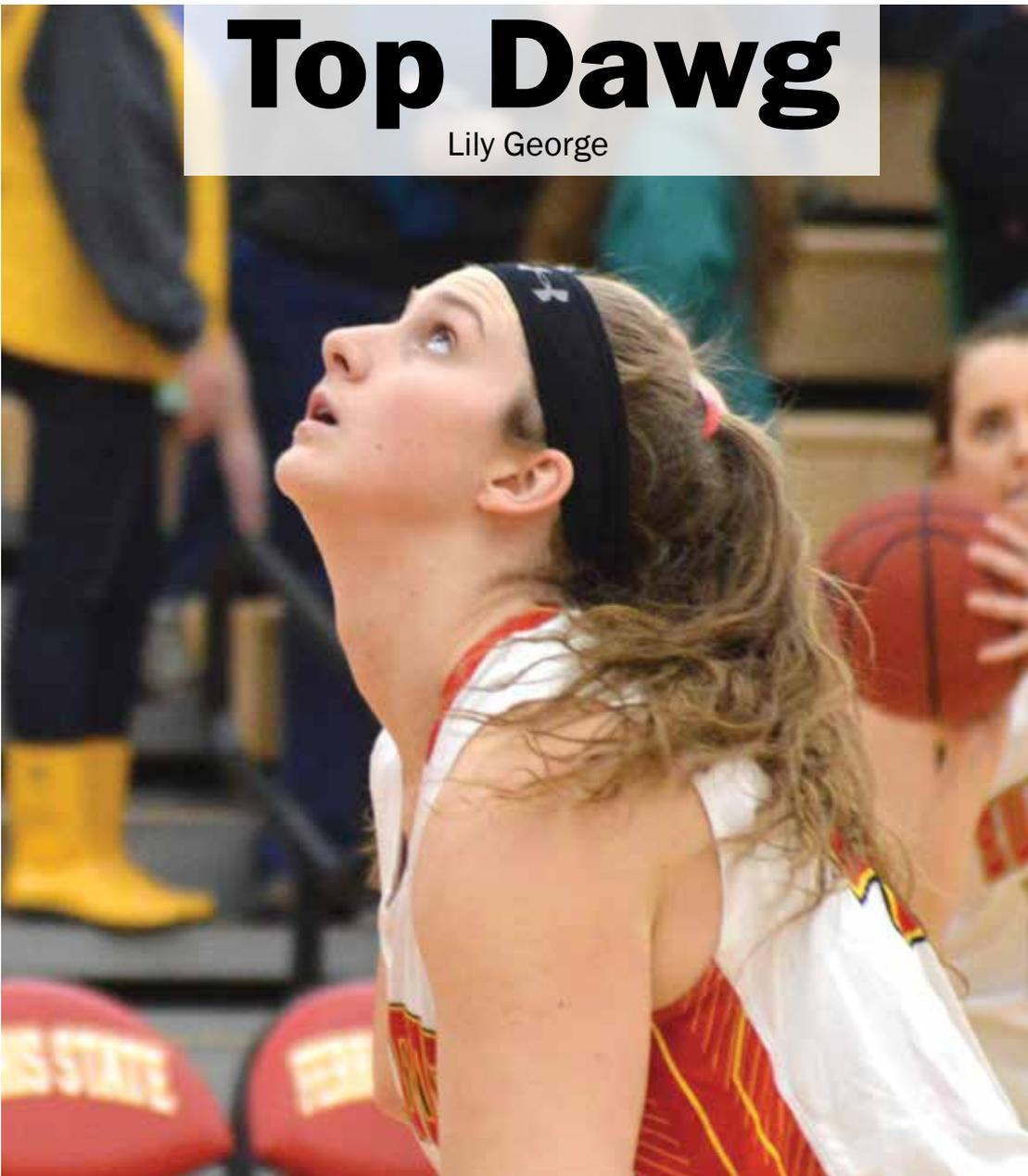


Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Jessica Brown
Torch Reporter

The Ferris women's basketball team secured its first GLIAC Tournament berth since 2013 as the Bulldogs beat visiting Purdue University Northwest 83-47 on Thursday, Feb. 22.

Ferris sophomore forward Lilly George has been a consistent weapon in the past week's home matchups.

This week's Top Dawg had a heavy contribution in the defeat of PUN, tallying 10 points and four re-

bounds.

The Bulldogs were unable to get the win in their next matchup with rival Grand Valley, coming out of Wink Arena with a 77-64 loss. George, however, wasn't going out without a fight, posting seven points, six rebounds and two steals.

The women's team is currently 14-14 overall and the 14 victories are the program's most since the 2011-12 campaign.

The Bulldogs will be on the road for the first round of the GLIAC Tournament with quarterfinal-round play on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at Michigan Tech.

Missed medal

Billins and the rest of the USA Men's Ice Hockey team unable to medal at the 2018 Olympics

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

The USA Men's Ice Hockey team was unable to place at the Olympics as former Ferris defenseman Chad Billins and company failed to get into the medal round.

Team USA was eliminated from the tournament on Wednesday, Feb. 21, after a shootout loss to the Czech Republic, who also failed to medal in the tournament after a loss to Canada in the bronze medal game.

Team USA was shocked in their opening preliminary game as they let a 2-0 lead slip in the third period against Slovenia, a team that began the tournament with the worst odds to win. Former Grand Rapids Griffin and Detroit Red Wings forward Jan Mursak tied the game late with Slovenia's netminder pulled and then registered the game winner less than a minute

into overtime to hand the Americans a stunning loss.

An improved effort was displayed a couple days later as the Americans held on for a 2-1 victory against Slovakia, a team that had upset the Olympic Athletes of Russia (OAR) a few days prior. With the win, Team USA went into their matchup against OAR with a chance to win their group.

Chances of winning dropped early as it became apparent the Russians were a much stronger team, dominating the Americans in a 4-0 game. With the loss, Team USA was forced to play in a rematch with Slovakia in the qualifying round. USA won again, this time decisively in a 5-1 game, sending them to the quarterfinal round where they played Czech Republic.

Billins became the second Ferris alum ever to don the US sweater at the Olympics, joining Jason Blake,

who did so in the 2006 games. Billins, however, became the first player to do so after playing all four collegiate years at Ferris, as Blake transferred to the University of North Dakota after his freshman year at Ferris.

Billins failed to register on the scoresheet in the five American games after putting four shots on net. He became a consistent defender for an American team that received a strong presence from Billins on the back end.

With Team USA's failure to medal, Chris Kunitz remains the only former Ferris player to medal in the Olympics with Canada's gold medal in the 2014 games.

Billins will now return to Linköping Hockey Club of the Swedish Hockey League, where he has registered four goals and 18 assists for a total of 22 points in 43 games this season.

Sports Shorts

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

Red Out

Ferris Athletics paired up with the Sports Careers registered student organization for the fourth annual "Red Out" event on Saturday, Feb. 24, inside Ewigleben Sports Complex.

February is Women's Heart Health month and the Red Out event is a way to give back to the community and those who have been affected by heart health in their life or someone in their families.

The event on Feb. 24 spanned over the course of the entire day of Ferris athletic events and overlapped Senior Day for each sport: Ferris men's basketball began at 1 p.m., followed by women's basketball at 3 p.m. and concluding with men's hockey at 7:07 p.m.

The event on total raised \$663.30, which beat last year's total by nearly \$200.

Dawgs with rackets

The Ferris women's tennis team began their spring season on Saturday, Feb. 24 with an 8-1 loss against the Hillsdale Chargers.

Ferris duo junior Nika Hein and sophomore Silvia Verebes won the only doubles match on the day.

The Hillsdale Chargers won all six of the singles and all but one of the doubles to complete the 8-1 victory.

The Bulldogs fell to 5-9 overall on the season after the defeat.

Ferris will be back in action on Friday, March 2, as they take on Southern Indiana in a regional showdown at 11 a.m. in Evansville, Indiana.



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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Sinking the Lakers

Ferris men's basketball ends regular season with a record 29 wins

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

The Ferris men's basketball team completed the season sweep against archrival Grand Valley State University with a 75-64 victory Sunday, Feb. 25, inside Jim Wink Arena on Senior Day.

The contest consisted of strictly defense in the first half, which put the score at 25-23 at halftime. In the second half, the Bulldogs managed to pull away with their offensive firepower, proving why they are ranked No. 1 in total offense in the GLIAC.

Senior guard Drew Cushingberry led the team with 17 points on the afternoon and senior wing Noah King added 11 points to aid the Bulldogs.

"Getting a win over the league rival is always a good feeling and it just shows how well the team is beginning to click at the end of the season," King said.

The 29th victory for the Bulldogs, which surpassed the 28 wins from a year ago, set a new school record for most wins in school history.

The team honored their five respected seniors immediately after the game, which consisted of Cushingberry, King, Peter Firlik, TyQuone Greer and Greg Kruśniak.

"The seniors are our brothers and it's going to feel weird without them next year," Ferris sophomore guard Greg Williams said. "I can't wait to have them lead us as far as we can go this year and enjoy the ride and enjoy playing these last games with them."

The Bulldogs became the first team to finish with 19 league victories in the history of the GLIAC North division.

"I will always take away the brotherhood that I have developed with each of my teammates through basketball," Cushingberry said. "They are going to be my brothers for the rest of my life. The amount of time we spend on a daily basis



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Torch Photographer

Senior TyQuone Greer eyes the basket as a defender tries to break his focus. The men's basketball team finished their regular season with a 29-1 record and now look toward the GLIAC Tournament.

on and off the court will be missed the most. It is deeper than basketball."

The team finished the season with a 29-1 overall record and a staggering 19-1 record in the GLIAC.

The squad has also currently won 17 straight games heading into postseason play in March and has won 22 straight home games.

The seniors for the Bulldogs have won three straight GLIAC Tournament Championships and two consecutive regular

season championships.

"The one thing I will take away from my time at Ferris basketball will be the relationships I built with my teammates," King said.

The team will be looking for their fourth straight GLIAC Tournament Championship on Wednesday, Feb. 28, as the No. 1 seed Bulldogs host the No. 8 seed Saginaw Valley State Cardinals at 7 p.m. inside Jim Wink Arena.

Welcome to the 1,000-point club

Three Ferris men's basketball players have left their mark on history



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Torch Photographer

Senior Noah King tries to knock down a free-throw. King is one of three players on the men's basketball team to join the 1,000 career point club this season.

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

While the Ferris men's basketball team has continued to build one of the strongest resumes in college basketball, three players have quietly slipped into the history books.

Ferris junior Zachary Hankins and seniors Noah King and Drew Cushingberry have recently reached the 1,000-point club and not only is that special for the players themselves, it also shines a light on just how special this program has been over the last few years.

"I feel like it's just a testament to the teams I've been a part of. When I first got here, I wasn't thinking about being a thousand-point scorer, it's something that just kind of came up through my teammates. I truly believe that when we win, the personal accolades will follow," King said.

King earned his 1,000th point on the road against Michigan Technological University on Feb. 15—a game where King hit a three at the buzzer to send the game into overtime and the Bulldogs left with an 89-84 victory.

Hankins has continued to build the mark he is leaving at Ferris as he reached the

club as a junior, something that makes the accomplishment all that much more impressive.

"It makes me feel accomplished but especially to have two other guys do it with me just shows that this core group I came in with has so much talent. It's a testament to the way we play," Hankins said.

As the personal accolades continue to build for members of the Bulldogs, the feeling within the team surrounding this season continues to reflect on how special of a year it's been.

"It's been a grind but now that I look back on it, it is the greatest season I've had in my career in anywhere. Not a lot of teams win 29 games in the regular season. I give the credit to Coach Bronkema. He had the faith in us to have a thirty-game season and we got the job done each and every day," King said.

Now the Bulldogs are off to the GLIAC tournament where they will try to win their fourth straight title.



Zach Hankins

LIFESTYLES

“Our native language is Kirundi but also French, Swahili and now English are widely spoke.” - Pia Tungabose - See page 14 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

Anywhere but here

Can't wait for spring break

Holly Baker
Torch Reporter

Whether they're job searching or searching for a spot on the beach, come Saturday, March 3, all Bulldogs are out of the pound and in spring break mode.

Far away from the Michigan winter, Ferris accounting major Josh Perkey will be relaxing on his first cruise with friends.

“I'll be gone for five days. We're going to a lot of different places like Nassau, Bahamas and a bunch of beaches and cool resort areas. I'm most excited for the warm weather and I'm 21, so there will be a lot of exotic drinks I'll get to try,” Perkey said.

While Perkey is sailing the seas, Ferris criminal justice and psychology major Calvin Kobe will be building houses in Mexico with some fellow Bulldogs.

“I'm going on a mission trip because I've always felt the calling to go on this mission trip. We have about 30 Ferris students going from the RSO His House and we are going with Northern Michigan as well. I went last year on this trip and last time we were there we had time where we dedicated the house to the family. It was a really special experience,” Kobe said.

Spring break is an excellent opportunity to get some work done. Ferris sports communication junior Makayla Hill will be

taking advantage of her time away from campus.

“For the first half of spring break, I'm working. I work at KFC currently but I'm trying to find another job for the summer time. The next half, I'm going to Atlanta, Georgia, to just spend time with family. We're going to Six Flags and exploring the downtown. It should be fun, I'm excited for the warm air,” Hill said.

For Ferris biology freshman James Bryant, going home for break is a five-hour drive.

“I live in Ohio, so I'm planning on just going home and spending time with my family over break. It will be nice to get away from campus for a while,” Bryant said.

While Bryant is looking forward to relaxing during his first spring break as a college student, Ferris applied speech communication senior Joseph Niebauer finds himself using his extra time to prepare for graduation.

“I'm going to continue my job search. I've gotten some interviews scheduled for earlier in the month and I'll probably try to get a couple more scheduled for during spring break. I'm from the Upper Peninsula and there really isn't too many opportunities up there right now for what I want to do. Currently, I'm in my last interview with Hanover Insurance, I've had interviews with Yelp and different staffing companies,” Niebauer said.



Calvin Kobe

No plans? No worries

Discover Michigan

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

Those wonderful two words that signal you're almost done with school for another year: spring break.

While many students spend their breaks traveling or vacationing in warmer climates, there are still some that remain in Michigan for that week of bliss.

So, as a student stuck in the dreary spring weather of Michigan, here are few places to check out while stuck at home:

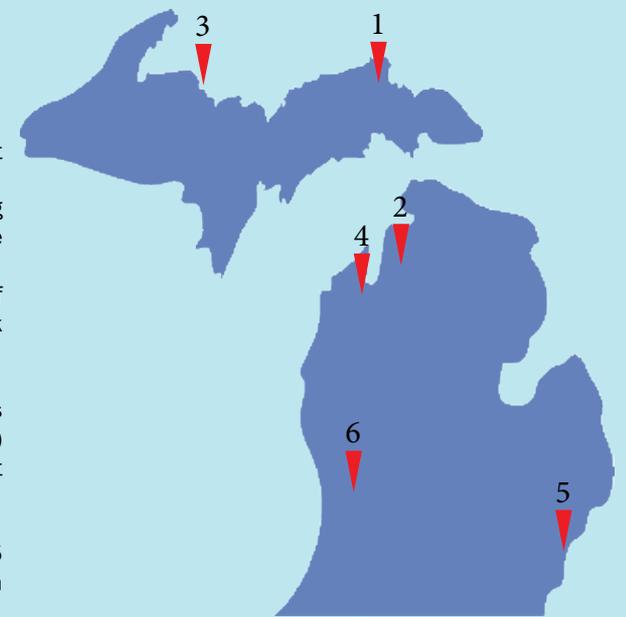
Visit Tahquamenon Falls State Park (1)

Skiing or Snowboarding in one of many Ski resorts such as Boyne Mountain (2) or Marquette Mountain (3)

Indoor water parks like Avalanche Bay (2) or Great Wolf Lodge (4)

Visit museums in Detroit (5)

Bar hop in Grand Rapids (6): Beer Month is Feb. 15 through March 15 Visit experiencegr.com/beer-month for details.



We are one

African Student Union hosts event celebrating African culture



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Students were able to learn about the various cultures at Ferris while enjoying some cultural cuisines.

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

The room was alive with the sounds of laughter and friendly conversation as members of The African Student Union talked with their peers at the Represent Your Country Night Wednesday, Feb. 21.

As the presentation began, the room fell silent as students came forth, representing their country. When the presentation began to wrap up, vice president of ASU and Ferris nursing sophomore Pia Tungabose came to the center of the room to ask those in attendance where they were from.

Tungabose was born in the East African country Burundi and lived there for eight years but had to leave due to ethnic conflicts. She plans on returning after graduating.

"Our native language is Kirundi but also French, Swahili and now English are widely spoken," Tungabose said.

Tungabose notes that in Burundi, while they do wear Western clothes, they wear an African fabric called "Igitenge," which is used to cover when you are home but is also used to make dresses, pants and jackets.

While Tungabose represented her native country of Burundi, other members of ASU discussed their homes and cultures. President of ASU and Ferris social work sophomore Sifa Nyamuhungu shared her own experiences from being raised in Kenya.

"Living in Kenya was amazing. Even though my parents

were refugees from Rwanda, my sister and I had a pretty normal life growing up. Most people in Kenya have one common type of clothes which is known as 'Kitenge.' Since it is more than 42 tribes in Kenya, they tend to have one type clothing that brings them together," Nyamuhungu said.

Unlike the other members of ASU, Ferris elementary education sophomore Sophie Carlson was born in Haiti before being adopted at an early age and moving to the U.S.

Reflecting on her own memories, Carlson finds that although she was from Haiti, she experienced it differently as she was a part of her own community at her orphanage.

"When I was adopted, for the longest time my mom had to stop telling my brother to put food in his pockets because that's what we used to do because we didn't know when we would be fed next. So he would stuff chicken strips and things in his pockets and my mom would put them in the washer and find shredded pieces of chicken in her wash because it took us awhile to realize that you're not going to just be fed once in that day, you're actually going to have food whenever," Carlson said.

However, she notes that despite realizing at a young age Haiti was a bit dysfunctional, while she was there she was never really upset.

"When you're living there, you don't realize there is better.



Sophie Carlson

So there is so many happy people and even though they live in really horrible areas, they are some of the happiest people and they are fine because they realize so long as they can have stuff that's enough," Carlson said.

Ferris heating ventilation and air conditioning freshman Majorie Banda was shocked when she initially came from Zambia to Michigan, finding the rapid change of weather surprising.

A proud Zambian, she expresses Zambia as "the real Africa."

"When you come to Zambia, you'll have seen Africa because of the natural resources in terms of wildlife, the water and also the Victoria Falls—it is one of the national wonders of the world. Come and see it, it's a beauty, especially in the rainy season. Other than that, we are blessed, after our independence we have never fought amongst ourselves, we've never had ethnic conflicts. It has been peaceful, from 1964 to date," Banda said.

ASU is a registered student organization on campus that's goal is to integrate African students into Ferris and the Big Rapids community while also informing students and the community about African cultures.

ASU meets every other week on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the OMSS office.

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Healing words | Taking a stand

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

Students came together Monday, Feb. 19, in support of one another as survivors and advocates took to the stage to read poetry and letters during Title IX's Campus Needs You.

Unlike traditional poetry slams, Campus Needs You—a social media account run by students in the Title IX office—ensured the event would be non-competitive and that advocates against abuse would be on stand-by for anyone who needs a break from the event. In between poems were light-hearted haikus read aloud by Title IX coordinator Kevin Carmody.

"We're hoping to bring awareness to it. One thing I think we did really well and I'm really glad about is we inspired a lot of people in the audience who weren't willing to come forward yet. Also, we were able to show how many people were affected by this. There were a lot of people who decided to come up to either write or speak that didn't sign up before. We wanted to let people know we're here. We're a

resource for them," Ferris forensic biology freshman Heidi Stauffer said.

They hope to see it become an annual event for the future.

Ferris music industry management freshman Erin Davis was one of the students to not only attend the event but took to the stage to read aloud poems she had written as an advocate for Campus Needs You.

"I love events like this. I think it is not only a great way for survivors and advocates and students to just learn but also to express their feelings and emotions through poetry, especially in regards to sexual assault," Davis said.

While Davis writes a lot of poetry, it is the first poetry slam she has participated in and looks forward to doing it again.

"Because I have multiple people disclose their stories to me and although I would never explicitly share their sto-

ries, I would never lump the stories together. But there is a common theme among sexual assault survivors and that is many feel it is their fault and many feel they have been held back from coming forward. So I wanted to take that and make it a story about them and not me, because I have never experienced that and would never want to give that illusion," Davis said.

Title IX also brought in Master of Ceremonies Rich Bronson to read aloud and act as a host for Campus Needs You.

Bronson initially got into slam poetry during high school, when he noticed his qualities of being loud and full of gestures could be applied to the art.

"I've been advocate for sexual assault going on 10 years now when Kevin contacted me and told me they were going to combine this amazing art form while giving people a chance to talk about this issues—and hopefully getting survivors to come up and talk about the issue—in a way you maybe can't express it in everyday life," Bronson said.



Erin Davis



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Students both read their own work and read on behalf of others at the Title IX poetry event.

TO REPORT AN INCIDENT, STUDENTS CAN CONTACT:

TITLE IX COORDINATORS KEVIN CARMODY
CARMODK2@FERRIS.EDU OR
(231) 591-2088

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