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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

COLLEGE GRADUATE
Check out a preview of Ferris theatre's spring production of Jessica Swale's "Blue Stockings."

PAID OR NAH?
Sports reporter and student athlete Danny Collins weighs in on whether or not college athletes should be compensated.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 7 **SPORTS | PAGE 12**

Pot wars

Students reveal that marijuana use on campus is fairly common

Cora Hall
Torch Reporter

Ferris professional golf management freshman James Miller* just wanted to grab a Gatorade from the fridge he shared with his roommate but when he opened the door, he found marijuana wax.

Miller said his former roommate smoked nearly every day in the room they shared in Brophy-McNerney. Miller said his roommate would smoke in their bathroom and then would Febreze it afterwards.

"He smoked so much weed, it was stupid," Miller said. "I didn't really see him much after the first few weeks but I knew if he had been in the room, because it smelled terrible."

Miller's roommate dropped out partway through the fall semester but he was never caught or reported with marijuana.

The possession and smoking of marijuana without a medical card is illegal in Michigan but because Ferris receives federal funding, possession, cultivation or distribution of marijuana—medical or not—violates the campus drug policy. The medical marijuana law is only state-wide, according to the Code of Student Community Standards.

"From a criminal standpoint, our officers use discretion but we enforce it pretty tightly. You know, every-

one knows it's illegal," Ferris Department of Public Safety (DPS) Chief Bruce Borkovich said.

Borkovich stated that in his years at Ferris, he's seen a "slight increase" of marijuana use on campus. Though the statistics reflect a steep drop in violations of controlled substances between 2016 and 2017, Borkovich said that it's because there was a change in the Clery Act, which requires universities that are federally funded to post crime statistics, according to the Federal Student Aid website.



Bruce Borkovich

"Between '16 and '17, classifying drug crimes changed, per that law," Borkovich said. "So if we'd recover a marijuana pipe

but there's no prosecution, there's no dope in it, we'd seize it and that became a drug crime. Well, it really wasn't, so how we collected crime statistics changed, that's all. There's no noticeable decrease in drug activity."

Ferris applied speech communications and industrial chemistry technology senior Andrew Gilbert* said that DPS is usually fair in handling drug arrests.

"A marijuana charge for a student can screw up their education. Now, on campus, public safety is fairly understanding of the value of education and doesn't wish to jeopardize that for anybody," Gilbert said. "Generally, if it's just a little personal possession, you'll get referred to the Office of Student Conduct, you know, some student probation. No police, no crime, no nothing."

Gilbert is an open advocate for legalization of marijuana and drug use on campus. He openly admits that he has used on-campus and been arrested off-campus "more times for marijuana than most kids at this college are old."

Gilbert also said that marijuana use on campus is common and that if students are just using personal amounts on campus, they'll be fine.

"If you want the how to get away with it on campus end of things—catch up kids, it's 2018. We got vaporizers, go electronic," Gilbert said. "Vaporization leaves little smell and it doesn't look like weed. If you're still puffing flower or doing dabs in the dorm, you're dumb."

According to Borkovich, there are usually more violations in the fall with incoming freshmen because they don't understand the consequences, which depend on the circum-

Marijuana | see page 5



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

Ferris

Drug law arrests/referrals:
 2012 = 111
 2013 = 194
 2014 = 178
 2015 = 195
 2016 = 198
 2017 = 106

2017 locations with highest number of violations: Brophy-McNerney, Merrill-Travis and Bond with seven each, according to DPS annual crime reports and daily crime logs

GVSU

Drug law arrests/referrals:
 2014= 79
 2015= 72
 2016= 57
 According to the 2017 Grand Valley State University Annual Security and Fire Safety Report

SVSU

Drug law arrests/referrals:
 2014= 55
 2015= 28
 2016= 47
 According to SVSU's 2017 campus security and fire safety report

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NEWS

"It took many years of struggling and of really getting nowhere before it actually took off."
- Eduardo Chavez - See page 5 for story

Harley Harrison | News Editor | harrih12@ferris.edu

Negativity behind the networking



Posting online can prevent job opportunities

Landry Shorkey
Interim Reporter

While many students may enjoy having profiles on multiple social media websites, using them can have steep consequences.

Ferris Coordinator of Career and Volunteer Centers' Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) Michele Albright feels that social media impacts job offers.

"Many recruiters are surfing social media sites to prospect candidates for current positions. If prospects have presented themselves in what the employer considers an unfavorable way or not in tune with the employer's values, the person is unlikely to receive contact about the opportunity," Albright said.

Potential employers may even go beyond the obvious websites like Facebook to research job applicants. A profile on a dating website or a YouTube channel with inappropriate content can become an issue as well.

"Employers will also Google search names and look into your

friends lists and activities on social media to create a profile of your character. Everything a person puts on the web is prone to bias and personal judgment in regards to hiring decisions and best fit for the organization," Albright said.

Different social media websites seem to have different societal expectations regarding content. Where something may be deemed inappropriate for Facebook, it may be viewed as okay for Twitter or Instagram.

"I feel like Facebook is for family, professors and old friends. Twitter is more celebrity and your own opinion. Snapchat is for sharing your life with other people and looking into other people's lives," Ferris public relations junior Kamry Morris said.

This idea was echoed by Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Mario Lei.

"I use Facebook occasionally—that's mainly for professional stuff and my registered student organizations. I also use Snapchat and Instagram, mainly just for socializing with my friends," Lei said.

No matter the app of choice, students may want to be extra

careful and deeply consider the implications behind a potential post.

"I sometimes see some of my friends post when they go to parties and they drink. Sometimes they're underage, so that kind of stuff is concerning," Lei said.

Ferris accounting junior Alexandra Kelley said political or controversial posts can have an impact on an applicant's image.

"I think that definitely racist or super controversial posts that are posted just to start a fight—like a lot of people on my Facebook post stuff knowing that it's going to start a fight—and I think that's something employers would look at negatively," Kelley said.

Ultimately, being aware of the surroundings in a photo or having a friend double-check that a status update sounds appropriate can be key in achieving a balance of appropriateness and self-expression.

"It's okay to post a picture at a party but just make sure there's no alcohol bottles or smoke in the air, anything like that. Just being conscious but still being free as an individual," Morris said.



Kamry Morris

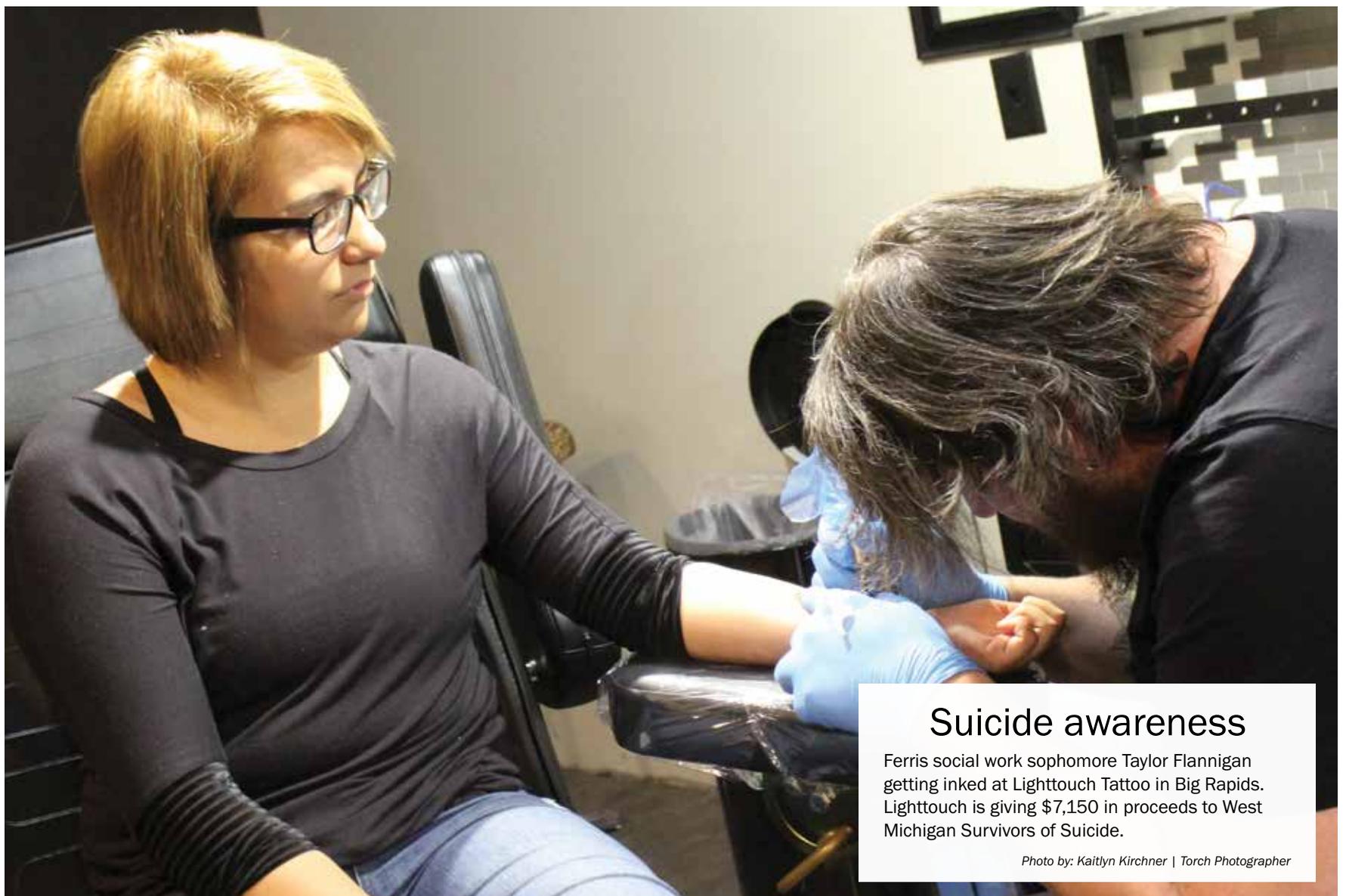


Alexandra Kelley

TO REDUCE NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Set your privacy settings
- Clean up your content
- Avoid political and highly controversial posts
- Clean up your friends and contacts
- Hide or delete inappropriate posts
- Un-tag yourself from others posts
- Google your name and pictures regularly
- Don't post content that is not appropriate for all audiences, including your faculty, pastor or grandmother; these are not appropriate for employers either
- Understand how your information is shared or used when joining new apps
- Be proud of what you post, and do not use social media to complain or communicate your personal business

The above information is courtesy of Michele Albright.



Suicide awareness

Ferris social work sophomore Taylor Flannigan getting inked at Lighttouch Tattoo in Big Rapids. Lighttouch is giving \$7,150 in proceeds to West Michigan Survivors of Suicide.

Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Hong Kong, China

Police in Hong Kong have arrested 75 people after raiding a prostitution ring on claims of organized prostitution. While prostitution is legal in Hong Kong, organized prostitution is banned and eight of the 75 arrested have been charged from profiting from the work of prostitutes.

Original story by Tiffany May, March 16, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Canada

Viola Desmond, a Canadian civil rights activist, is set to be the first black woman to be represented on the Canadian \$10 bill. Desmond is known for sitting in a whites-only section of a movie theater in 1946.

Original story by Ian Austen, March 12, 2018. *The New York Times*.

Qaim, Iraq

Seven U.S. service members died in a helicopter crash near the city of Qaim shortly after take-off. While the incident is still under investigation, officials do not believe it was a result of an enemy action. There were no survivors and officials will not release the names of the troops until families have been notified.

Original story by Eileen Sullivan, March 16, 2018. *The New York Times*.

United States

Students nationwide walked out of school to protest gun violence Wednesday, March 14. The protest was inspired by the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Feb. 14. The walkout began at 10 a.m. and lasted 17 minutes, in memory of the 17 people killed in the shooting.

Original story by Vivian Yee and Alan Blinder, March 14, 2018. *The New York Times*.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

The blues for two

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Delinquent at DPS

March 9, midnight, officers responded to a report of obstruction of justice at the Ferris Department of Public Safety. One suspect was arrested.

Busted

March 9, 9:45 p.m., officers found a controlled substance violation at State and South Street. One suspect was arrested.

Hail all in Hallisy

March 13, 11:55 p.m., officers assisted staff in Hallisy Hall with a report of a violation of controlled substances. The investigation is still open.

The blues for two

March 14, 2:27 a.m., officers investigated a narcotics equipment and controlled substance violation in Lot 20. Two suspects were arrested.

NEWS BRIEFS

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Flint water drive

Support the sisters of Sigma Lambda Gamma by collecting water cases, water jugs and baby wipes for the Flint community. All items can be dropped off at the Center for Latin@ Studies in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center room 131 beginning Monday, March 19 through Friday, March 23. For more information, contact Diana Giles at (231) 742-0821.

Relay for Life

Participate in Relay for Life to fundraise for the American Cancer Society at 6 p.m. Friday, March 23, in Ewigleben Sports Arena. For more information, email Catherine LoSciavo at loschi@ferris.edu.

Magician Mike Super

See magician Mike Super perform at 7 p.m. Monday, March 26, in Williams Auditorium. The event, presented by Entertainment Unlimited, is free to attend. For more information, contact Ryan Fouts at fouts@ferris.edu.

Woven together

Diversity project coming to campus

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

The librarians at FLITE are working on a project that uses yarn to show individuality and interconnection amongst students.

Project I-Dentify is an interactive art project funded by a grant from the Ferris Diversity and Inclusion Office. The project, which is projected to be ready by the end of March, will allow students to show their traits and interests, as well as compare them to those of other Bulldogs.



David Scott

"We're gonna have this big board with different diversity descriptors: male, democrat, religion, socioeconomic things, kids, I like to play sports, I like to watch sports. That kind of stuff. We'll have this yarn that people can wrap around each descriptor that fits them. Our goal is that it'll be this neat art thing that will show how a lot of us are very similar, and also how we're different, because there will be a lot of overlap," Ferris Outreach and User Engagement Librarian David Scott said.

The project will be available for student interaction for a month before being displayed indefinitely as artwork in FLITE.

The idea for Project I-Dentify came from Ferris Creative Learning Librarian Mari Kermit-Canfield, who was inspired after hearing about the Unity Project,

which is similar to Project I-Dentify.

"Project I-Dentify seeks to represent the Ferris community in a visually interpretable form. Participants and viewers should be able to follow the diversity indicators for an individual, judge all the ways that person is unique and then step back and see a broad intersecting web representing the multifaceted huge community of Ferris as a whole," Kermit-Canfield said.



Allicyn Crippen

"I think that this is a really crucial time—it being 2018, everything is going on. I mean, there's a lot of issues with different social groups, I think, so I think this is a really good way for people to see that we are all still connected and even though that you think you're so different from somebody, you're also very similar. And I think it's a really nice way to connect those people who might have issues," Crippen said.

Kermit-Canfield hopes students will benefit from seeing how diversity exists at Ferris.

"When we support and learn from each other, we grow," Kermit-Canfield said.

Students can participate in Project I-Dentify following its installment at the end of March. The project will be accessible on one of the pillars through the entrance of FLITE.

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Torch Corrections

In the Feb. 28 issue of the *Torch*, the graph on page 2 incorrectly displayed data regarding the projected number of high school graduates in Michigan. The graph was taken directly from a presentation put together by Ferris administration and the *Torch* staff is working with those administrators to properly correct the data. In the future, the *Torch* will work to further information prior to publishing.

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

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Stopping opiate overdoses

Ferris students and staff receive training to administer life-saving medicine

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Opiate addiction has become an epidemic in the U.S. and has made easy access to overdose reversing drugs more important than ever.

Ferris' Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) chapter partnered with the Grand Rapids Red Project on Saturday, March 17, to provide free Naloxone training. The Grand Rapids Red Project is a non-profit organization with core goals of improving health, reducing risk and preventing HIV. Naloxone is commonly known as Narcan, which is the nasal spray version of the opiate overdose-reversing drug. It is also available as an injection.

"The majority of deaths that are being caused by opioids are preventable. Naloxone is a medication that will reverse an overdose from opioids. It is pretty much a pure antidote for opioid overdose. It is an opioid antagonist. The way that it works is that it targets the same receptor sites in the brain as opioids and it bonds to them and essentially kicks the

opioids off those receptor sites," Grand Rapids Red Project overdose prevention coordinator Jonathon Lamaire said.

The presentation was given to a group of 15 people that included mostly students, but also three employees of Birkam Health Center.

"It was super educational. I didn't realize there was a fully direct counter to opioids. I knew there was treatment but I didn't realize there was something that could completely counteract the effects," Ferris computer information technology junior Declan Flood said.

The presentation focused on numerous aspects of the drug epidemic, including signs of overdoses, how to react to save someone's life during an overdose and how to administer Naloxone during an opiate overdose. After the training, interested members were also given Naloxone kits to take home.

"I think it's really dumb [Naloxone] isn't readily available on campus," Ferris industrial chemical technology junior Raven Cantrell said. "If these kits were actually available and this kind of training was available to RAs and hall staff in general, I think the hall staff would feel a lot more confident in being able to provide a kind of safe area for people to come to them and say 'hey, there's something wrong going on in room 37.' Sure, they can call DPS but it's another way for others to take control of a situation."



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Grand Rapids Red Project overdose prevention coordinator Jonathon Lamaire leads Naloxone training.

Staying safe

Ferris Students for Sensible Drug Policy chapter work to change drug laws

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Drugs are a common reality of college campuses but addressing safe drug use is a subject not often covered.

Ferris' Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) said their main concern is working towards more sensible laws and providing information to the public that can aid in harm reduction amongst drug users. Some critics of the group's policies believe that harm reduction tactics such as needle swaps enable drug users. SSDP believes that resources to create safer drug use are not only important but that those resources should be decriminalized as well.

"We're here because we recognize that people are going to use drugs, especially on college campuses, so we want to

make sure that those who do use are educated and can use safely," Ferris pre-pharmacy sophomore and SSDP member Monica Pittiglio said. "I worry that people view our group as a group just for people who think that doing drugs is fun and really the reality is that we're a political organization that is pushing for harm reduction."



Monica Pittiglio

SSDP is very active in their pursuits of safer drug use and also in marijuana legalization efforts. They recently traveled to Washington D.C. to speak with congressional leaders about restricting financial

aid for students with drug convictions.

"We have a table every week in the University Center or

the Interdisciplinary Resource Center where we pass out as much information as we can. DanceSafe gives us these little information cards with almost every drug you can think of—legal or illegal—and it has information on what not to take it with, what to expect if you're going to take it and signs if someone is overdosing," Ferris plastics engineering junior and SSDP member Logan Kucharski said.



Logan Kucharski

SSDP's next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 22, in University Center room 211.

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Activist inspiring future activists

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Activism takes many shapes and sizes and to Eduardo Chavez, anyone can be an activist.

In the IRC on March 13, Chavez joined Ferris students, staff and faculty in the first ever Cesar Chavez March in Big Rapids.

Chavez, an actor, filmmaker and the grandson of Cesar Chavez, came to Ferris with the objective of inspiring students to become activists.

"It's a new experience. I'm learning everyday about what it means to be an activist and really it's a term that's thrown around a lot—really anybody can be an activist, it's just about speaking up on issues that you're passionate about," Chavez said.

Chavez first arrived on campus March 12 to screen his film "Hailing Cesar" in the University Center in a setting where students could openly ask questions.

"So my film that I made—documentary—has, I feel, a lot of potential for an educational setting. The film target audience is really young people—young people who are trying to find their identity or trying to find what meaning they can get from helping others," Chavez said. "So I decided to reach out to Ferris and I got in touch with Kaylee Moreno—who is the head of the Center for Latin@ Studies—and then she put the event together yesterday for the film and then it just happened to be today that was the first Cesar Chavez March."

While the timing may have been coincidental, Chavez was the first of many speakers at the event and he also took part in the march that started at the IRC and looped around FLITE. Dozens of marchers could be heard singing songs in Spanish as they trekked along.

Since Chavez was only a year and a

half old when his grandfather died, he does not have any personal memories. However, the activist believes that his grandfather's story should be passed along to inspire younger generations of activists.



Eduardo Chavez

"I do have some stories that I've heard from my father and the first one that I can tell you is about when my grandfather first started to try and organize farm workers and start a farm worker union. He told his kids to basically leaflet and put posters

all around the town where they were from, saying that there was going to be a farm worker union that's going to be created and the meeting started at six," Chavez said.

The first meeting planned by Cesar Chavez was a bust if there ever was one.

"My dad and his father were there and by 7 p.m., nobody showed up. By 8 p.m., nobody showed up and at 9 o'clock they left. No one came to the first meeting and this happened for weeks and months until there was any traction and my grandfather wasn't discouraged, he just kept fighting for this cause that he really believed in and, yeah, the rest is history," Chavez said.

Chavez hopes that his grandfather's struggles will demonstrate to young activists that success does not come easily.

"It took many years of struggling and of really getting nowhere before it actually took off," Chavez said.

Students who missed the event or who want to know about the Chavez family can go to hailingcesar.com to learn more.



Photo by: Harley Harrison | News Editor

Dozens of students marched in the first annual Cesar Chavez March on-campus.

Marijuana

Continued from page 1

stances. If a student is caught with several ounces or a pound of marijuana, possession of that amount is a felony and they could be suspended or expelled from one incident.

"The law is wrong; the law is absolutely wrong in this situation. But the law is still the law and that's something that most people experimenting miss out on," Gilbert said.

Other students across the state share Gilbert's views about legalization of marijuana. On April 1, 2017, the 46th annual Hash Bash was held on the University of Michigan's campus. Police estimated that there were 10,000 people in attendance, lobbying to put the legalization of marijuana on the statewide ballot in 2018. Many activists there even lit up joints, filling the area with smoke, according to mlive.com.

Borkovich opposes the legalization of marijuana because he has seen the impact it has and the damage it causes after being on the drug team for six years.

"Marijuana doesn't make you a better mom, a better dad, a better student, a better worker, a better citizen.

It is a mind-altering substance that doesn't enhance people, it doesn't make people better. It doesn't make them more responsible or take more responsibility for themselves. It's pretty hard for me, as a member of society, to say 'let's legalize this' when we know it has a lot of negative impacts on people," Borkovich said.

Even though Gilbert advocates for the legalization of marijuana, he said he will be the first to tell you there are negatives associated with marijuana, such as being too high to be useful or care about being useful.

"When I first came here, the idea of showing up anywhere not high was kind of absurd to me," Gilbert said. "That's changed, you know, six years in college and there's a lot you have to have your head together for."

See page 4 to learn about the Ferris chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

*The names of the students in this article, Miller and Gilbert, have been changed to protect their identities.

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LIFESTYLES

"My stress level is at a solid eight out of 10."
- Shelby Rude - See below for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

Baby come back

Beating post-break blues

Kat Merby
Torch Reporter

As students returned from spring break, distractions from school surrounded the minds of many, leaving students inspired to do just about anything to avoid homework and studying.

Amidst the longer and sunnier days of spring, stress has become a plague on campus which can contribute to diminishing motivation.

"My stress level is at a solid eight out of 10," Ferris early childhood development freshman Shelby Rude said.

Rude further explains how she

is struggling in her Chemistry 114 class because of its fast-paced curriculum. Luckily, Rude found that utilizing her professor's office hours every Thursday and creating flashcards to study has helped her retain the material.

To stay motivated to finish out the year with good grades, Rude remembers what she wants her GPA to look like at the end of her college career and how one of her goals is to never have to withdraw from a class.



Kasey Walsh

Methods of motivation vary greatly among students. Ferris general studies freshman Kasey Walsh favors a reward system in learning.

"To stay motivated, I am rewarding myself, for example, if I did real-

ly well on a test, then I would go get something from Starbucks," Walsh said.

Walsh attributes her stress to her geography class and the amount of credits she is taking. However, she has a plan to succeed by not only staying on top of her daily work but reading ahead in the course.

Contrary to the trend, Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Remi Wurtz feels less stress now that the semester is coming to a close.

"Bio was a struggle but I started paying closer attention in class and started taking better notes," Wurtz said.

Finish off the semester to the best of your ability, Bulldogs! Whether you're stressed about the amount of work or relieved to have hit the mid-semester period, remember there are many ways to keep motivated and improve your study methods.

5 MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

"DON'T BE PUSHED BY YOUR PROBLEMS; BE LED BY YOUR DREAMS."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"MORE POWERFUL THAN THE WILL TO WIN IS THE COURAGE TO BEGIN."

-Orrin Woodward

"SUCCESS COMES FROM HAVING DREAMS BIGGER THAN YOUR FEARS."

-Bobby Unser

"YOU DON'T DROWN BY FALLING IN WATER; YOU DROWN BY STAYING THERE."

-Robert Collier

"THE ONLY PERSON YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE BETTER THAN IS THE PERSON YOU WERE YESTERDAY."

-Matty Mullens

One step at a time

Check out tips by Bulldogs for Bulldogs on getting through the semester unscathed

Jordan Johnigan
Interim Reporter

Artists for your study playlist

- Led Zeppelin
- Pink Floyd
- The Beatles
- Odeza
- Illenium
- Grizz
- Biggie Smalls
- Frank Ocean
- The Eagles
- Bad Company

Study Do's

- Utilize SLA if your course offers it
- Study at FLITE and leave your phone at home
- Get a good night's sleep, even if you still have studying to do
- Break up studying into manageable 30 minute sections throughout the week
- Create or join a study group
- Use a planner so you never miss deadlines and can study for tests accordingly
- Take notes and mark/highlight important sections in your textbook for future reference
- Utilize the tutoring and writing center

Study Don'ts

- Pull all-nighters
- Cram
- Turn on the television for "background noise"
- Panic, even if it's last minute.
- Have your phone on, even if it's on silent

Snacks

- Caffeine
- Pizza combos
- Cheez-its
- Arizona tea
- Sunflower seeds
- Fruits and veggies
- Peanut butter crackers
- Sour Patch Kids
- Twizzlers
- Trail mix

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

College graduate

Ferris theater presents "Blue Stockings"

Briana Hammtreee
Torch Reporter

Greetings from Girton College—the first college in Britain to admit women while also denying them the right to graduate. Imagine meeting the requirements, working hard and then not being granted that degree because of your gender.

This idea is depicted in the play "Blue Stockings" by Jessica Swale, which Ferris' theater is putting on for their spring show.

Focused around four young women, primarily the character of Tess Moffat, "Blue Stockings" follows the women as they struggle through their experiences at Girton College, dealing with feminist ideals and conservative beliefs taking place during 1896.

Ferris applied speech communication third year Clare Green plays Celia, one of the four young women attending Girton and friend of main character Tess.

"In the past, I've played fun roles but I've never really played a role where they get to make a difference. And Celia's part is different in that they all want to graduate but Celia, more than the others, is fo-

cused on learning more than the others," Green said.



Dewight Braxton

Green notes that the play is a mix of genres, not only being dramatic but also comedic and slightly romantic.

Ferris manufacturing and engineering senior Dewight Braxton plays one of the only male professors at Girton College, Mr. Thomas Banks.

"He is one of the only male teachers who actually wants to help the girls education, because a lot of the other guys don't want to," Braxton said.

While Braxton's character, Banks, is one of few who hopes to see the girls succeed, there are many characters in the show who either oppose the idea or don't speak out.

Ferris English sophomore, Lily Cyr plays the role of Minnie, a maid at the college.

"I do think she works as foil for the other characters. She doesn't talk all that often but she's there and isn't like these other girls," Cyr said.

"Blue Stockings" will be performed in the Williams Auditorium Thursday, March 22 through Saturday, March 24 at 7:30p.m. and Sunday, March 25 at 2:30 p.m. Students can purchase tickets for \$5.

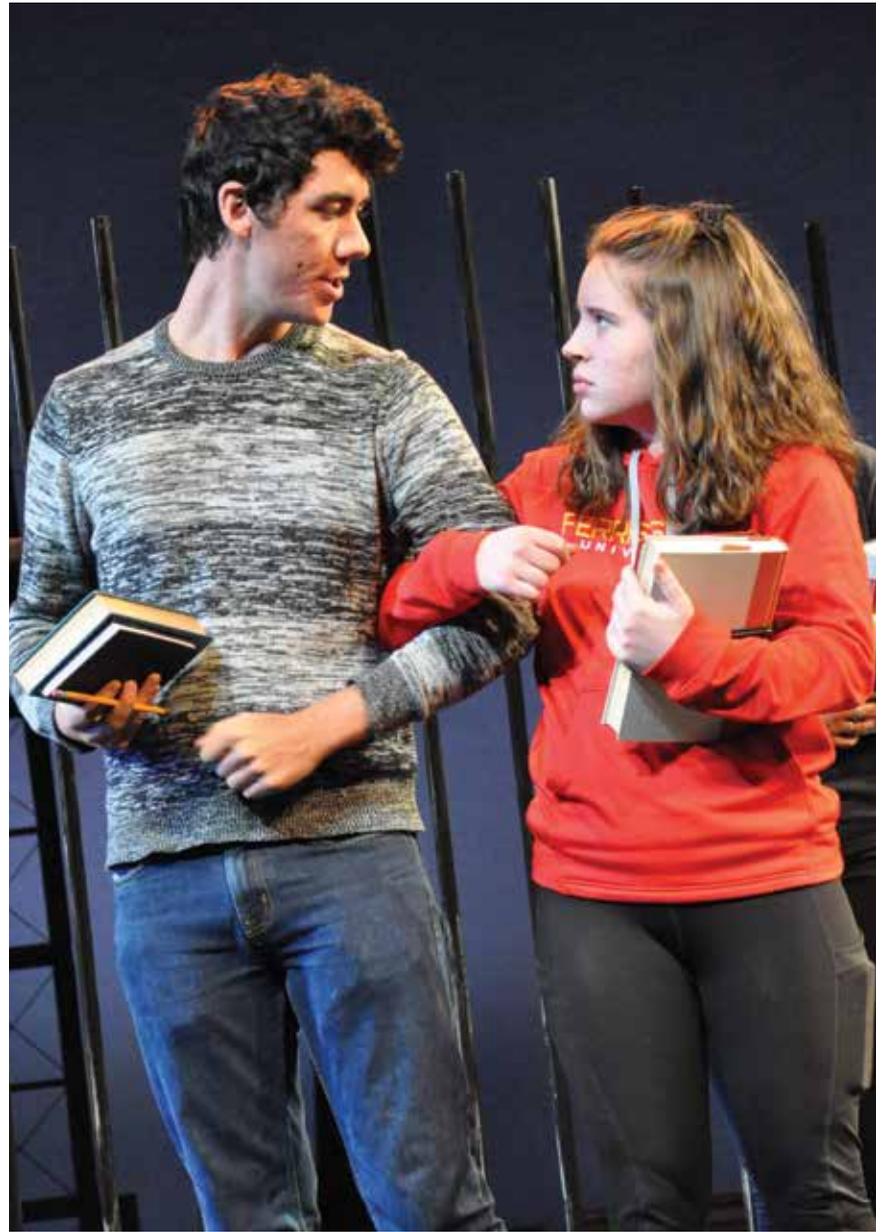


Photo courtesy of Ashleigh Allen

Ferris hospitality management junior Hunter Johnson and applied mathematics freshman Olivia Tower are deep in character at their rehearsal in preparation for opening night Thursday, March 22.

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Do you believe in magic?

Super to mystify Big Rapids

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

He was the winner of NBC's "Phenomenon" and a finalist on "America's Got Talent," mystifying the world with acts involving the supernatural. Now, mystifier and illusionist Mike Super is coming to Ferris to entertain students and the Big Rapids community.

Super first began practicing magic at a young age after witnessing an older man performing magic tricks at Walt Disney World. Inspired, he soon began to take up magic himself as he practiced close-up magic.

"I use the term 'mystifier' because it allows me to perform all genres of magic. Illusion, close-up, mind reading, mentalism and escapology. This way I have no constraints on what is expected and it allows me to branch out. And, most importantly, it makes people wonder about what they'll see me do," Super said.

Entertainment Unlimited (EU) will be hosting Super this year

at Ferris, with tickets free to not only students but the Big Rapids community.

"Mike Super is also another addition to the EU roster because he is the third act coming from America's Got Talent. We had Steven Brundage, Adam Grabowski, so Mike will be the third addition," Ferris hospitality senior Justin Stevenson said.

Ferris computer information and technology senior Ryan Fouts is the senior president of Entertainment Unlimited, having learned about Super through television and national showcases.

"Personally, I saw Mike Super the past few years I've gone to the convention and he's always been the type of magician I thought would be very cool to bring," Fouts said.

Ferris pre-optometry junior Tess Shultz has been to past magic shows held by Entertainment Unlimited and looks forward to seeing what the show has to offer.

"I've been to other things put on by Ferris. I love EU, they put on a lot bigger names. Like, this magician was voted number one in 'Phenomenon,' so they don't pick nobodies," Shultz said.

Super will be performing at 7 p.m. Monday, March 26, in Williams Auditorium.



Graphic by: Hannah Way | Interim Production Assistant

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One ticket please

Ferris Music Industry Management junior and Entertainment Unlimited member Miranda Vaskl selling tickets for the upcoming Music Takes Action concert on April 7, featuring artist Blackbear.

Photo by: Sid Sabo | Visual Content

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SPORTS

"I'm just trying to enjoy the moment. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity."
- Zach Sieler - See story below

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

From Bulldog to draftee



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Former Bulldog Zach Sieler celebrates after making a big play for the football team. Sieler is gearing up for April's NFL Draft.

Sieler on list for 2018 NFL Draft

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

The 2018 National Football League Draft will have a lot at stake for Ferris as Zach Sieler has a legitimate shot at hearing his name called.

Sieler was one of the most dominant men in the past two seasons as a member of a ferocious Bulldog defensive line. Quarterbacks feared him on Saturdays in college

and will soon fear him again on Sundays as the 6-foot-6, 290-pound lineman works his way into the professional spotlight.

"I have been talking to a lot of teams with my agent. However, I can't really name them. There's a lot of stuff going on but I'm very excited," Sieler said. "I'm just praying I get an opportunity to be on a team and I know from there I'm going to excel."

It's rare to see a Division II athlete forgoing a season to make the leap to the professional ranks but if anyone has a chance to make it work, it's Sieler. In the 2016 season as a sophomore, Sieler put himself on the map with a record-breaking year. He set school records with 29.5 tackles for loss and 19.5 sacks while being named the Football Gazette National Defensive Player of the Year.

Sieler saw another year of success in 2017 while consistently being put up against two to three offensive linemen as opposing teams tried to limit the damage Sieler inflicted on any player touching the ball. Sieler has since been working out in Atlanta, continuously improving so he can have the best opportunity once reaching the NFL.



Zach Sieler

"I feel great. I'm excited. Going through this process is very eye-opening. I've learned a lot of things and I'm thankful for all that's happening," Sieler said. "I'm just trying to enjoy the moment.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity."

Sieler would become the first Bulldog ever drafted into the NFL if his name is called at the draft in April.

If Sieler's name isn't called during the draft, he will garner a lot of interest as one of the best free agents out of college and would join recent Bulldogs Jake Lampman, Jason Vander Laan and Justin Zimmer who have all taken that route.

One thing is for sure: no matter how he gets there, Sieler is hard at work to haunt the dreams of NFL quarterbacks everywhere.

The 2018 NFL Draft begins on Thursday, April 26 and will wrap up on Saturday, April 28.

Sports Shorts

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

Another one

Ferris junior center Zach Hankins has once again been honored for an outstanding season. Hankins' 2017-18 campaign came with many accolades as the nationally first ranked Ferris men's basketball team continues to push forward in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II playoffs.

Hankins has been nominated as one of 25 national finalists for the 2018 Bevo Francis Award for the second year in a row. The award is given to the nation's most outstanding small-college basketball players and can be compared to the Naismith Award for Division I men's college basketball.

Hankins has been a staple of Ferris basketball over the past two seasons and this season has not been any different. Hankins has averaged 15 points, 9.8 rebounds and 3.4 blocks per contest.

The team has won 22 straight games and stands at 35-1 overall currently. The squad has also won the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Championship for the second straight season and the GLIAC Tournament for the fourth consecutive year.

Sweet spring time

The 2018-19 Ferris football squad began their spring football season Friday, March 16, at Top Taggart Field.

Spring training is important for coaches, as it gives them a chance to evaluate the talent on their team prior to the fall season. Spring training consists of 14 practices with the 15th practice being the final Spring Game.

The FSU squad returns only two starters on defense this season and eight starters on offense, which means this is a huge spring for the Bulldogs to gain valuable experience for their current team.

The 2018 Spring Game will take place at noon, Saturday, April 14, at Top Taggart Field.

Women's golf takes on Florida

The Ferris women's golf team took flight to Tampa, Florida over spring break as they competed in the GLIAC vs. Great Midwest Athletic Conference (GMAC) Showdown.

The competition took place at Saddlebrook Resort March 8-10. FSU shot a collective 692 in the tournament and finished fifth place overall as a team.

Ferris freshman Baylee Thompson shot a tournament low with a 73 on March 9 to tie the leaderboard in the final round of competition.

Junior Katelin Randolph and sophomore Mari Suokko tied for 20th place both scoring a 176 over the course of two days of the tournament.

The team will be back on the course Saturday, March 24, for the Perry Park Spring Fling in Perry Park, Kentucky.

Top Dawg

Nur Adim Ramdani Iswan



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Brendan Samuels
Torch Reporter

This week's Top Dawg has been dominating on the tennis court.

Ferris junior Nur Adim Ramdani Iswan has been dominating opponents as of late, and we're not the only ones who have taken notice. Iswan was recently named the GLIAC player of the week for men's tennis.

The Bulldogs are currently 9-2 and they owe a great

deal to the play of the junior.

Iswan led his team to three straight victories over spring break, going 3-0 in singles play and matching that record in doubles as well. Iswan's combined 6-0 record helped his team defeat Newberry from South Carolina and Davis & Elkins from West Virginia, both by a score of 8-1.

The Bulldog men's tennis team will be back in action at 10 a.m. Friday, March 23, when they take on the Lewis Flyers in Big Rapids.

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Paid or nah?

Should collegiate athletes receive compensation?

Recently, there has been a lot of speculation regarding collegiate athletes receiving compensation from coaches or boosters involved in their programs. This brings up the question: should college athletes be paid?



Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

As a current senior defensive back on the Ferris football team, I am here to give you my take on this widely debated topic going on in the NCAA.

Now, this topic has heated up over the past few months after freshman All-American center Deandre Ayton received \$100,000 to play at Arizona, former North Carolina State guard Dennis Smith received \$43,000 in his time in college and current sophomore forward Miles Bridges for Michigan State University received a stipend in his time with the Spartans.

No matter your take on the subject, it cannot be denied that these athletes have brought in jaw-dropping amounts of money for their athletic programs.

According to businessinsider.com, the average participant in the Football Bowl Subdivision earns \$137,357 per year and an average participant in the NBA earns \$289,031 per year, while the average player earns only \$23,204 in scholarships. In the NBA, players partake in 50 percent of all revenue while players of the NFL receive 46.5 percent. If the same model was applied to college sports, football and basketball players would earn a collective \$6.2 million.

As a collegiate athlete, I firmly understand the amount of attention that athletes can bring to a university such as awareness, recruiting for students and models for success. We stand as a symbol of excellence for our respected institutions and there is a strong amount of pressure on student athletes to succeed.

You can ask any student athlete, and they will tell you that being a collegiate athlete is a full-time job—however there is no salary involved. The term salary is a fragile word in regards to something a collegiate athlete should or shouldn't receive.

Personally, I feel that if we received a weekly or monthly salary, certain athletes would abuse this privilege and spend this money on things that they

don't need.

If there were a salary involved, there would be unfair distribution among players and genders between sports. There would have to be a Title IX rule instilled in the NCAA if this were to happen and deciding how much certain athletes would make based on their respected sports.

Athletes may also not feel obligated to attend their classes, and their passion for their sport may decrease because they are being paid to play.

I do, however, believe that college athletes could earn a different source of income.

One of my biggest struggles as a collegiate athlete is finding time to make food or even eat enough meals in a given day. I am a full advocate for receiving money that can go towards a meal plan or groceries per week. Food is essential for a collegiate athlete to refuel their body and muscles and in return can help them perform on the field or court.

Division II, III and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) schools typically don't have to worry about the revenue issues as much as Division I schools, since we don't sell merchandise with our names or numbers on them.

Regarding schools that are in the Division I level and that generate thousands of dollars in revenue from their athletes, such as Michigan and MSU, I have a different viewpoint.

Not only should these athletes receive money for food per week but they should also receive a percentage of each sale on their personal merchandise, such as jerseys, shirts or sweatshirts with their name on it and should receive this money upon graduation from their respective universities.

My formula may not be the right one, nor may people agree with me but I think there are some changes that need to be made to the flawed NCAA system.

A long time coming

Rob Bentley to announce first Elite Eight game for Bulldogs

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

It's taken Ferris Assistant Athletics Director for Communication Rob Bentley 26 years, 14 trips to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament and six prior regional championship game losses to reach a box he's never crossed off: a trip to the Elite Eight.

In his seventh trip to the regional championship (and third against the University of Findlay, coincidentally), Bentley finally called the words across the broadcast he's been waiting on since he was 21.

"When it got late in the game, it was pretty cool knowing that this was finally an opportunity to go to the Elite Eight, which is something I've wanted to do since I was a freshman in college," Bentley said.

Known well for his impassioned "Bingo!" when the Bulldogs hit a long shot, the Nebraska native has had

to pull the phrase out a potential record-setting number of times. The Bulldog men's basketball team is the top seed in the Elite Eight, stands at 35-1, has won 23-consecutive games and finished 22-0 at home in 2017-18—all of which are school records.

"This team has some great talent and great character. It will be tough to top what we have on this team.

This team obviously stacks up well with anybody in the country but also some of the great teams we've had here at Ferris," Bentley said.

The voice behind the hoops squad has certainly reached a milestone, yet he hardly has the time to

enjoy it. At home games, Bentley is also the official scorer, a duty he carries out by himself while on the broadcast.

Producing online live stats is generally a job that takes two people. One will call out what's going on in play, while another enters it into the computer at furious speed. Bentley does all of this by himself without a caller.

"I once attempted to learn how to input volleyball stats in the same manner," Athletics Communications Associate Harrison Watt said. "I had a caller and everything. My first attempt was a miserable failure. It's funny because when I tell most other sports information directors in the league that Rob is doing that, their jaws drop."

Bentley's longtime broadcast partner Sandy Gholston has been right by his side throughout the process, getting a courtside view of what makes him so special.

"We always talk about Rob being the hardest working man in show business because he does so many things for the university. He seems to have an endless amount of energy and the great thing about him is he has tremendous Bulldog pride, a great work ethic and he's so talented. We're really blessed to have him at Ferris," Gholston said.

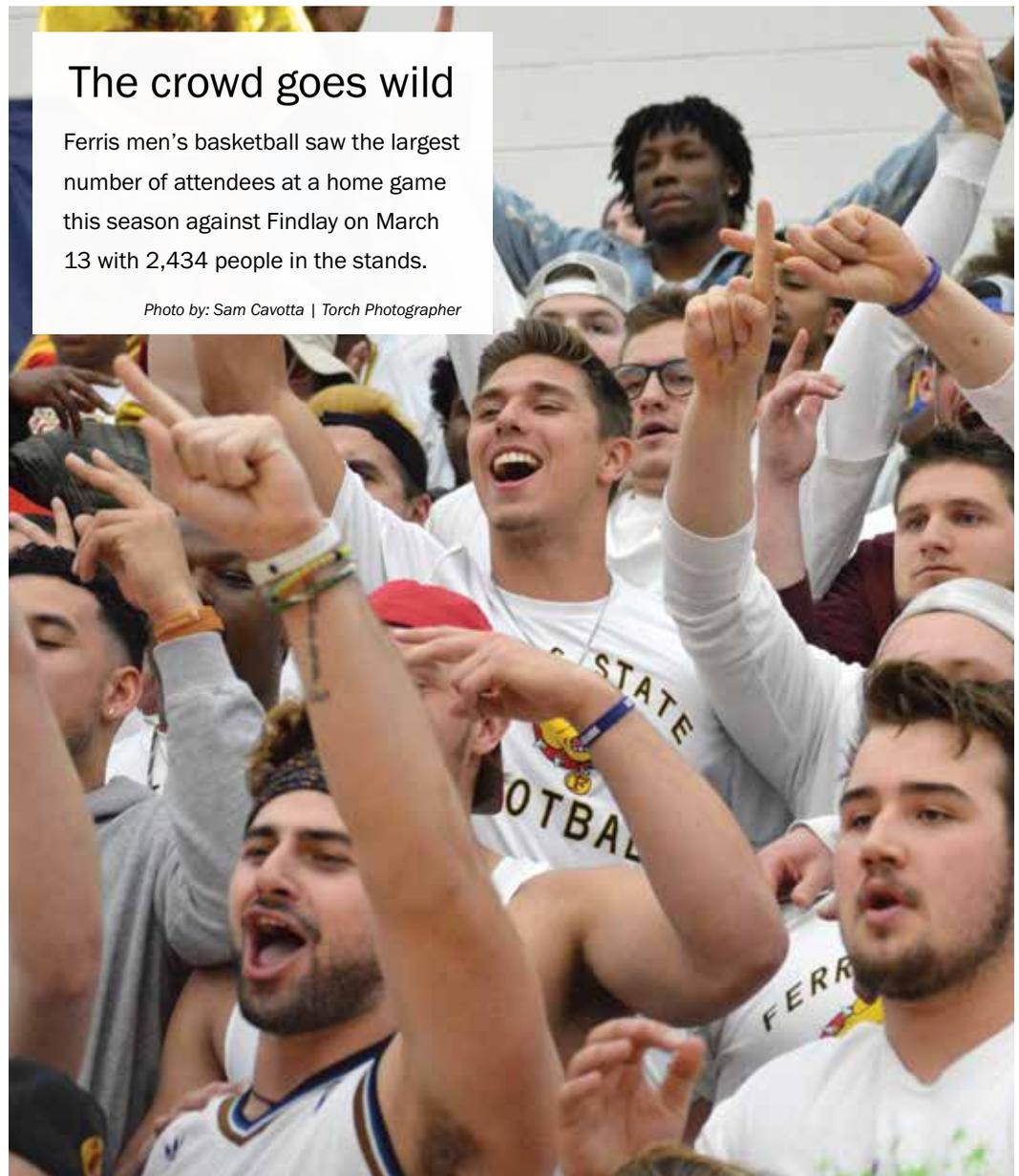
Bentley and Gholston will have the call for all Ferris basketball games on Sunny 97.3 FM as the Bulldogs look to bring home the first national championship in school history—three wins away from another box for Bentley to check off.



Harrison Watt



Rob Bentley



The crowd goes wild

Ferris men's basketball saw the largest number of attendees at a home game this season against Findlay on March 13 with 2,434 people in the stands.

Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

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Hope for the future

Ferris' hockey season through the eyes of Fernsler

Jasen Fernsler
Guest Writer

It felt great to get back in the swing of things this year.

It's crazy how much you miss between road trips, pre-game warmups and just being with the guys constantly and that's one of the things I was happy to be a part of this year.

Last year was difficult for me (as I had to sit out) but it was worth it to be able to play for Ferris and represent our university.

We had a lot of bright spots in our season and are already looking forward to October. We're losing a lot of high character and locker room guys from our senior class but we are very confident and optimistic moving into next year.

We had a lot of guys who grew as players this year who are primed to be big contributors next year. Having two experienced goalies come back will help us a lot as well. We also have a very talented group of freshmen coming in who are going to make an impact immediately.

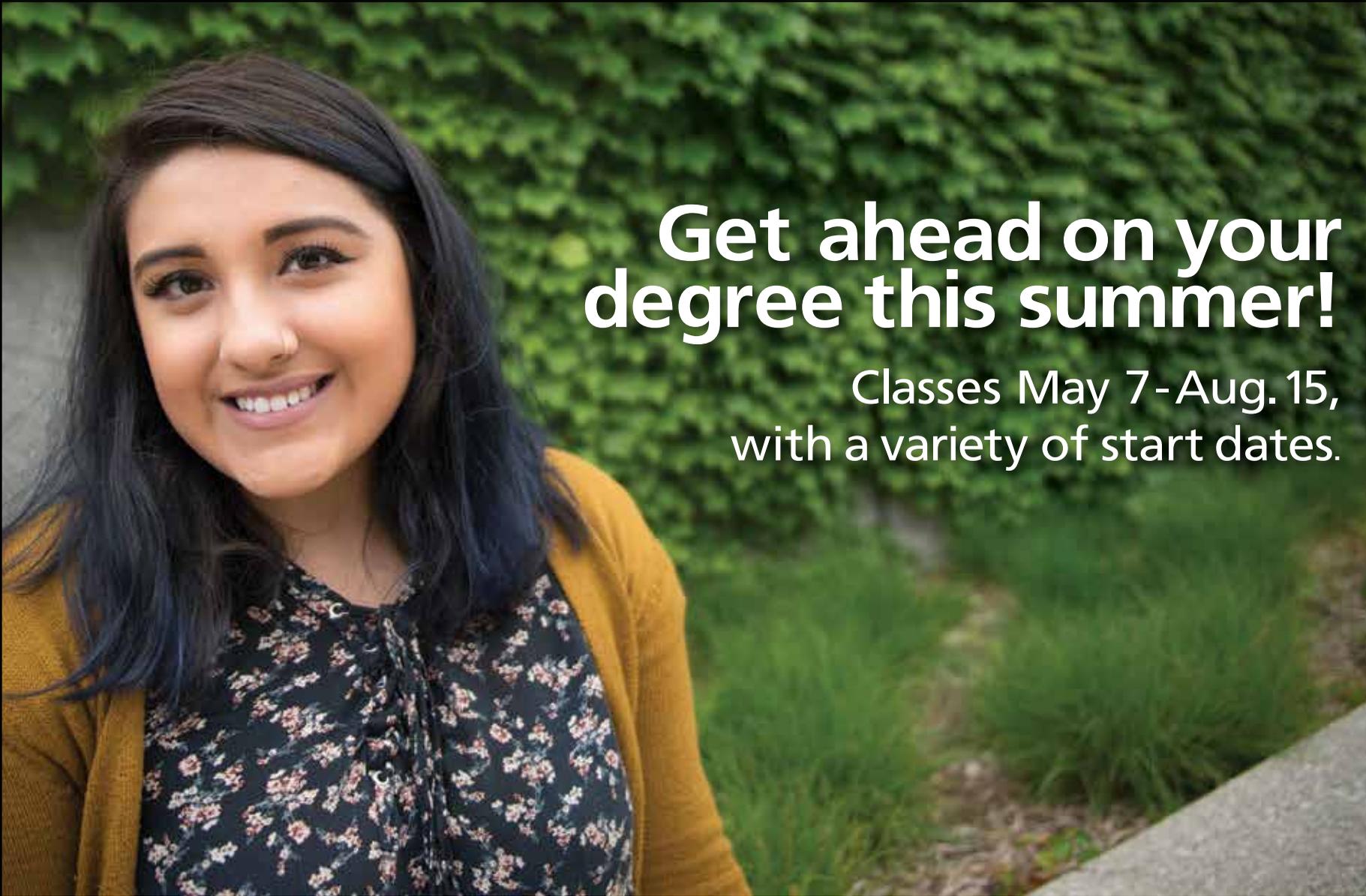
As spring workouts begin and summer is approaching, we are excited to get to work over our time off and make an impact in the offseason that will pay dividends for next season.

Most importantly, we're excited and driven to get back in the national spotlight and bring a championship back to Big Rapids.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Ferris sophomore forward Jasen Fernsler prepares for a matchup at Jim Wink Ice Arena. Hockey season may be over but the Bulldogs are built for future success.



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OPINIONS

“Do proper research before you purchase an animal of any kind.”
- Kaitlyn Kirchner - 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 Easter, I have made the bold choice to stay at school and not attend my family's holiday dinner.

I have a lot of reasons for abstaining, ranging from the 12-hour round trip, to my disdain for ham as a holiday meat but the sheer fact of the matter is that I'm not a Christian.

To be clear, I have been a lapsed Catholic since I was roughly 15, although I didn't actually learn that term until a couple years ago.

For those of you that don't know, a lapsed Catholic is someone that has been baptized and or confirmed but is no longer practicing.

This means that I eat whatever I want on Fridays during Lent but I still get uneasy watching exorcism movies. And I have no idea if I'm supposed to take communion during wedding ceremonies.

I can't say I ever bought into organized religion; I was seven when I started causing problems

in Sunday school by asking questions about science and evolution. In fact, my curiosity led to my family changing churches at one point.

Over time, I developed my own moral compass and decided that I didn't need the church to tell me what was right and wrong.

I don't regret my decision and to be honest, I have found far more loving and accepting people outside of the church than I ever did in.

For me, a spiritual experience is watching a sunset, genuinely connecting with another human being or witnessing a random act of kindness. I don't think babies are born full of sin, or that you have to show up to an ornate building every week and put money in a collection to be a good person.

So this year, on April 1, I will be sipping a glass of white wine in my apartment, Facetimeing my family and not eating ham.

Something's fishy

Why are fish cared for less than other pets?



Kaitlyn Kirchner
Office Manager

Picture this: you walk in to Petsmart and you see a betta fish, brightly-colored and small. The store employee tells you that all you need to buy is a small fishbowl and some food. Inexpensive and compact—perfect for your dorm. You pour some tap water in the bowl, plopping the fish in and pour some fish food in. Boom, you have a fish.

Now think about all the time and effort you would put into getting a dog. You would probably do research on a reputable breeder or shelter, buy food, treats, toys and a bed. You would take it to the vet, get its shots and make sure it's healthy. You'll probably dog-proof your house so it doesn't get into anything that it shouldn't.

Why wouldn't you do that for your fish? Why is a fish less deserving of proper care than

a dog or a cat? I recently bought a betta fish on impulse while I was home for spring break. I named him Abe (short for Abraham Lincoln). When I got home with him, his food and a 1-gallon fishbowl, I started to do a little bit of research on betta care. What I found was that betta fish—and most other fish—require a lot of care.

While pet stores will tell you that betta fish live in puddles, that's not entirely true. They live in rice fields that can be chest deep. They can live up to seven years with proper care.

To properly keep a betta, they need to be kept in a tank that is at the very least 2.5 gallons and they need a filter to keep their water clean. Bettas love to hide, so they need silk plants to hide in—not plastic, because plastic will rip their fins. Bettas are tropical fish. They need to be kept in water that is 75-8 degrees Fahrenheit, so that requires a heater and a thermometer for the tank.

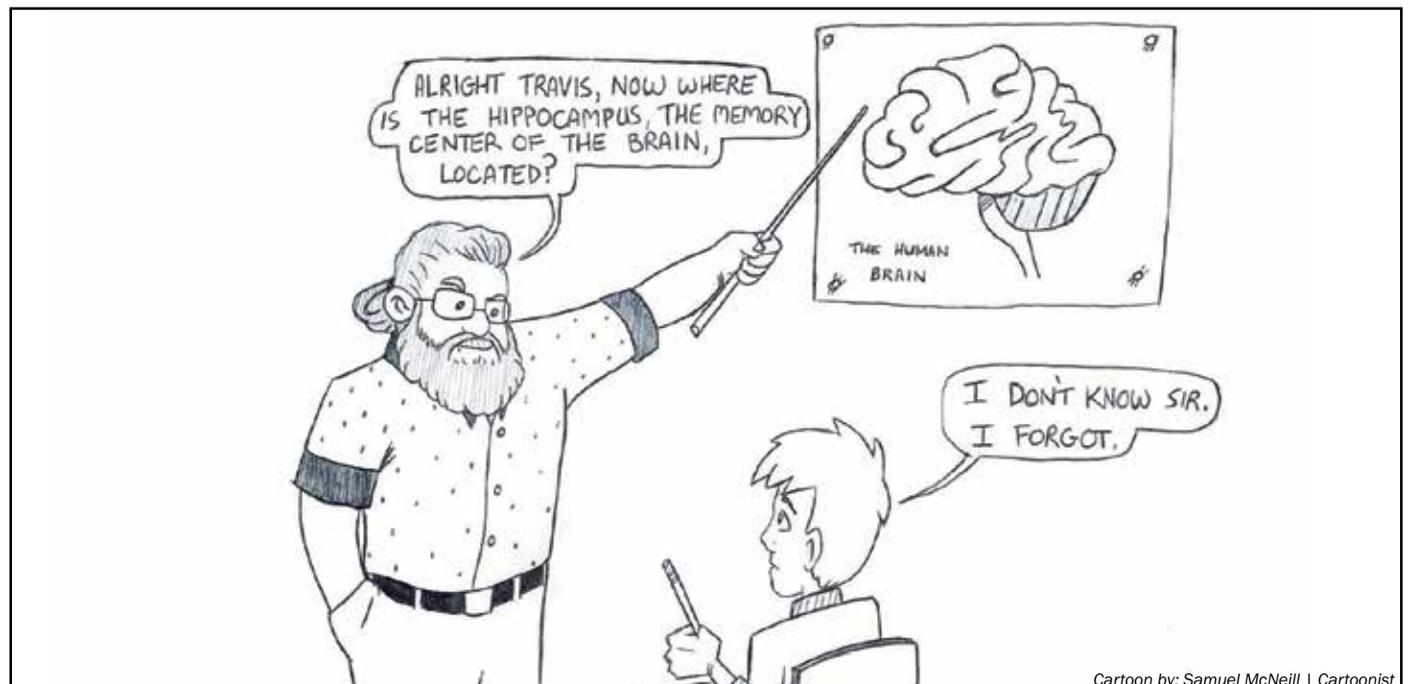
Furthermore, you cannot keep male

and female betta fish together and you cannot keep males together. You can only keep females together and they need much more space.

The point here is that if you want to get a fish, make sure you are prepared to take proper care of it. Abe now lives happily in his own 5-gallon tank with a heater and a filter. He relies on me. He deserves a good life just as much as any other pet.

Don't get a pet unless you can take care of it. Don't get a fish because you think it's easy. It's not. I have to change his water constantly so he doesn't get ammonia poisoning. I have to keep him warm and give him places to hide. I put a lot of effort into keeping him alive because I didn't do the proper research before I got him. Do proper research before you purchase an animal of any kind.

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager



Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

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| Best Downtown Business-nonfood _____ | Best Place for Lunch _____ |
| Best E-Cigarette/Smoke shop _____ | Best Place to Dance _____ |
| Best Fast Food Restaurant _____ | Best Place to Hear Live Music _____ |
| Best FSU Athletic Team _____ | Best Place to Take a Date _____ |
| Best FSU Fraternity _____ | Best Professor _____ |
| Best FSU Residence Hall _____ | Best Resident Assistant _____ |
| Best FSU Sorority _____ | Best Restaurant-Chain _____ |
| Best FSU Student Organization/RSO _____ | Best Restaurant-Local _____ |
| Best Golf Course _____ | Best Salon/Spa _____ |
| Best Grocery Store _____ | Best Sandwich Shop _____ |
| Best Gym/Health Club _____ | Best Tanning Salon _____ |
| Best Hamburger _____ | Best Tattoo Business & Body Piercing _____ |
| Best Happy Hour _____ | Best Thrift/Vintage Shop _____ |

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.

**Please fill out
to enter our
contest!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Good Luck!

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