



Ferris State University
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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

BAD DATES
We've all been there...or have we? Check out some dating horror stories fellow Bulldogs have encountered over the years.
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BREAK IT DOWN
As a tradition, the women's basketball team throws dance parties before every game. Read about the tradition's history and how it's affected the team.
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When is a house a home?

Students compare on-campus with off-campus options as they house hunt for next school year



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

While some stay on campus after their first year, many students choose to live off campus to find cheaper rent and more private living spaces.

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Many students' housing contracts expire at the end of the spring semester, so with a quarter of the semester complete, students are exploring housing options for next year.

With more than a dozen apartment complexes to choose from in addition to on-campus residence halls and apartments, there are many housing options in Big Rapids for Ferris students. For some, the familiarity of staying on campus and being near all the on-campus amenities and events leads them to remain in the residence halls or on-campus apartments. For others, the variety of off-campus housing options persuades them to move to an apartment complex or house.

Ferris nursing junior Brandy Wagner says that after one year of living in Ward Hall, she and her friends decided to move to Campus Creek Apartments.

"We wanted to have our own space, and we kind of got sick of the Rock. We wanted to cook on our own, be able to buy our own groceries and save a little money, and the apartment has more space than a dorm and is a little more homey," Wagner said.

For Ferris' housing office, much of the focus is on giving students incentives to stay on campus, along with maintaining a va-

riety of good options for students.

"In the last couple of years, we've really invested in our facilities. Clark Hall had a major renovation with new windows, lobby — new bedroom furniture next year — and we're looking at doing that with more halls this summer," Ferris Director of Housing and Residence Life Bryan Marquardt said. "We also give free parking to all returning students. That's about a \$100 savings right there. A lot of people will look at cost, and our cost ranges from \$424 per month to about \$600 per month, and it depends upon what you want. If you're living in a double, it's going to be cheaper, and if you live in a single, apartment or suites, it will be more expensive than a hall. But when you think about that it's all-inclusive, there's no parking pass, there's no heat, no electric, no cable, no WiFi and you start adding all that together it's very comparable and competitive."

For apartment complexes, the pitches to students are similar as they try to attract potential off-campus renters to sign leases with them. Property Manager of Venlo, Tioga and Northland Flats apartments Sarah Peterman says that the vast variety of apartments available, including options with covered parking and some on the river, helps them attract students who are looking to move off



Sarah Peterman



Brandy Wagner

Housing | see page 5

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NEWS

“Students, staff and the Big Rapids community have the chance to enjoy new foods and get a window into how different cultures ring in the new year.”

- Jacob van Laar - See page 4 for story

Megan Lewton | Editor in Chief | lewtonm1@ferris.edu

Cyber security standards

National Security Agency grants Ferris program \$130,000

Madison Kettlewell
Torch Reporter

Ferris' information and security intelligence program received a \$130,000 grant from the National Security Agency.

The grant is being used to develop a social media and dark web analysis curriculum, as well as necessary software and training to teach the courses.

“It started with President Obama. If you look at what they call the top threats to the United States, one of those is cyber. If it is considered one of the top threats to the United States, it's certainly worth looking at,” Ferris Center of Cyber Security Director Greg Gogolin said. “Some of the things that are out there, they're almost indescribable. It's not only the impact of how you get there and so forth, there's an impact just seeing it. You can't unsee it.”

The deep web is a large part of the internet, inaccessible through any search engine. This means to access a site, you need a direct link. Within the deep web lies the dark web. The dark web is a blanket term for the websites used for illegal activity.

Ferris information and security intelligence senior Lilia Herdegen said that no student from the program has gone on to the dark web due to how dangerous it really is.

“From what I've been told about it, there's a lot of human traffickers that go on there, terrorists, that kind of thing. That's how a lot of black market

stuff goes on, on the dark web. But it's hard to catch people on the dark web because they're pretty high tech, and they're able to delete information,” Herdegen said. “That's what makes it really hard to get people in trouble, especially because it's global. If something happens to someone in the U.S., but the exchange happens out of the country, they might not be able to get in trouble because the rules are different there.”

The program received a second grant from the National Security Agency in the amount of \$160,000. This grant was mainly used to further develop and promote cyber competitions at Ferris.

Gogolin said the dark web and social media analysis courses will stay as electives for now, with the potential to develop into a concentration.

“The tools that you use to investigate dark web activities can be extremely expensive. Being able to sustain those tools and capabilities over time can be a challenge,” Gogolin said. “You can spend \$100,000 to develop something that is very much needed, bring in the software and such and set up the environment, and then the next year you can't run it because you don't have the funding.”

Ferris information and security intelligence senior Bryan Bollou said students at Ferris can take a few precautions to protect themselves online.

“The most important aspect to defend is your passwords. Having multiple, complex passwords is one of the greatest ways to prevent cyber attacks against your accounts,” Bollou said. “I highly advise students to use a password manager such as LastPass on their computers and phones. A multifactor application such as DUO would be a great accessory to a password manager, too. Though it may seem like a drag, most managers are very intuitive and effective.”

Ticketing turmoil

Student voices parking ticket woes at Student Issues panel



Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Students voiced their campus-related concerns at the Student Government Association 2019 Student Issues Panel Tuesday, Feb. 5. Ferris criminal justice sophomore Phil Marsalese addressed his frustration with how Ferris Department of Public Safety issues parking tickets.

Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

Ferris criminal justice sophomore Phil Marsalese believes he's received unfair treatment from Ferris Department of Safety (DPS) regarding a slew of tickets he received last October.

Marsalese claims to have received three parking tickets for leaving his car in Lot 21 over a weekend. He parked in the correct lot, but his permit sticker had fallen off his windshield.



Bobby Gill

“I did a whole two-page paper on how I felt like it was wrong. They gave me a phone call. They said, basically, that the board rejected my appeal and that I'd have to pay it, so I ended up paying it,” Marsalese said.

He was about to receive a fourth parking ticket for unlawful display of his sticker when he returned to his car, Marsalese said.

Marsalese was but one student among many voicing concerns and airing their grievances at the Student Government Association (SGA) 2019 Student Issues Panel.

The discussion Tuesday, Feb. 5, in the University Center, was previously an annual event until 2018 when it was canceled due to scheduling conflicts.

“I wanted to bring it back,” Ferris accounting and finance sophomore and SGA President Bobby Gill said. “And I wanted the transparency aspect because I know a lot of the administrators want to get this information out to campus, but they don't know how to do it.”

The policy on parking citations was explained by Ferris DPS Dispatch Specialist Dylan Tantalo.

“The policy that we have is every two hours, essentially, you can be recited,” Tantalo said. “If you live on campus and you park up in Lot 4, for example, you might not know for a couple of days that you're getting tickets. Usually what the parking office does, is that they'll excuse a ticket after the first one per day. So if you leave your car there for five days, you still may end up getting five total tickets, but if there's seven or eight on your windshield, you'd have to come in and talk with the parking office.”

“How am I supposed to know the sticker came off?” Marsalese said. “It just fell onto the dashboard, so if you were to look in and read it, it would say I was legally parked there. What was the last straw for me was when I was paying the ticket, my car got ticketed at the police station.”

Students who experience a problem on

Tickets | see page 3

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Weird stuff happens when you party naked

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Weird stuff happens when you party naked

Feb. 2, 12:06 a.m., officers responded to a naked man running down the hallway in Clark Hall. The subject was a non-student visiting a friend and they were consuming hallucinogen mushrooms as well as using THC oil. EMS was called, and the case is still open.

Mutually upset

Feb. 2, 2:40 a.m., officers at the Icebreaker Dance in Wink Arena hosted by the Black Greek Council witnessed a domestic assault occur between a male student and female student in the hall outside the dance. The female student was arrested, and the report was turned over to prosecutor's office for the male student's charges, as the officer reported that it was a mutual fight.

Best to not get involved

Feb. 2, 2:45 a.m., a friend of the female student in the previous report repeatedly tried to get involved in the situation. Officers are pursuing charges of obstruction of justice.

Turnt joyride

Feb. 3, 3:02 a.m., officers stopped a student for driving with no headlights in Lot 37 and found that the student was operating under the influence of alcohol. The student also did not have a driver's license. The subject was arrested and cited for operating under the influence of alcohol.

Stop hogging the washer

Feb. 4, 9:07 a.m., a student in Hallisy Hall reported that her clothing was stolen from the laundry room. The case is still under investigation.

Didn't put a ring on it

Feb. 5, 2:22 p.m., a student in North Hall reported that she noticed a ring was missing from her room and claims the ring was stolen. The case is still under investigation.

The studying got to them

Feb. 5, 8:18 p.m., officers received a report of a disorderly student at FLITE who was refusing to leave and using foul language. Officers responded to the scene and asked the student to leave, and she did.

Probably lost it at Shooters

Feb. 7, 12:21 p.m., a student reported his license was stolen. Another student turned in his wallet with all his belongings in it besides the license. The case was closed due to lack of leads.

Probably locked their keys inside

Feb. 7, 4:08 p.m., an officer found a vehicle in Lot 1 with a back window broken out. No surrounding cars had broken windows, just one car with a back window shattered. The case has no leads at the time.

They just don't get it

Feb. 7, 9:17 p.m., officers were dispatched to Hallisy Hall and found the odor of marijuana coming from a room. The officers spoke to the resident of the room and they were allowed to search the room. They found marijuana, a grinder and a pipe. The student was given a citation for being a minor in possession of marijuana and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 302 tickets from Feb. 2 to Feb. 9, totaling \$4,770.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

Berlin, Germany

A German government-appointed commission proposed adding a speed limit to the autobahn, which prompted nationwide disagreements and protests. Discussion of autobahn speed limits in Germany is a very controversial topic. Implementing a speed limit would lower carbon emissions — vehicles currently make up 11 percent of carbon emissions in Germany — and reduce the number of deaths by car collisions. Despite these facts, public opinion still supports a speed limit-free autobahn.

Original article by Katrin Bennhold, Feb. 3, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

Alexandre Bissonnette, 29, was sentenced to 40 years in prison without the possibility of parole for a terrorist attack on a mosque in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. Bissonnette's attack in January

2017 killed six people and injured 19 others, including paralyzing one for life. Bissonnette could have been sentenced to up to 150 years in prison, or 25 years for each death, but Justice Francois Huot did not want to deny Bissonnette the possibility of ever leaving prison. President of the Mosque Mohamed Labidi did not think the sentence fit the severity of the crime.

Original article by Dan Bilefsky, Feb. 8, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Istanbul, Turkey

An eight-story building collapsed in Istanbul, killing at least 15 people and injuring at least 14 others. Officials continue to search for survivors in the wreckage, and a 16-year-old boy was discovered in the rubble two days after. The building collapsed shortly after columns had been severed and a wall demolished during renovations.

Original article by The New York Times, Feb. 8, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Tickets

Continued from page 2

campus are welcome to attend an SGA meeting 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in UCB 202. The SGA can also be contacted through email or Facebook.

"If students do have problems that are going on around campus like that guy had the parking issues, that's the perfect thing for student government to tackle. Our thing is we're here to serve the

students," Gill said. "We don't get enough students coming in and telling us what's wrong."

The panel consisted of Interim Chief Technology Officer Ralph Williams, Vice President of Administration & Finance Jerry Scoby, Dean of Student Life Joy Pufhal, Vice President of Student Affairs Jeanine Ward-Roof, Associate Vice President of Auxiliary Enterprises Gheretta Harris and Ferris State Department of Public Safety Dispatch Specialist Dylan Tantaló.

Torch Corrections

Did we make a mistake?
Let us know!

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

NEWS BRIEFS

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

Wildlife Drawing Workshop

Put your artistic abilities to the test and practice drawing during the Wildlife Drawing Workshop 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, in the Card Wildlife Education Center in the Arts and Science Commons. The event, which is a part of the Big Rapids Festival of the Arts, is open to the public and people of all ages are welcome to attend. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. For more information or to register, contact Roxanne Cullen at cullenr@ferris.edu.

"A Star is Born" Showing

Watch "A Star is Born," hosted by Entertainment Unlimited, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 17, in UCB 202. For more information, contact Entertainment Unlimited at EU@ferris.edu.

Sports Speakers Series

Learn more about careers in sports communication in the Sports Speakers Series 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, in IRC 115. Ferris sports communication alumni Alex Freeman and Megan Hiler will be speaking about their experience in the field of journalism and broadcasting. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Sandy Alspach at alspachs@ferris.edu.

"The Office" Trivia Night

Test your knowledge on "The Office" during "The Office" Trivia Night, hosted by Entertainment Unlimited, 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, in UCB 202. Students are welcome to make a team of no more than five people, but students will be made into groups if they cannot put a team together. The top three teams will win prizes. For more information, contact Entertainment Unlimited at EU@ferris.edu.

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Ring in the new year



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

The Ferris Lunar New Year Celebration, held Tuesday, Feb. 5 in the IRC, allowed students to make origami and play games.

International student organizations host Lunar New Year celebration

Dan Deitsch
Torch Reporter

The Ferris Diversity and Inclusion Office, in collaboration with the Office of International Education, hosted the Lunar New Year Celebration to honor the holiday.

"It's been a great success in drawing a big crowd to learn about and participate in the diversity that makes up the Ferris community," Ferris international student recruiter Jacob van Laar said. "Students, staff and the Big Rapids community have the chance to enjoy new foods and get a window into how different cultures ring in the new year."

Initially created by the International Student Organization, the Lunar New Year Celebration Tuesday, Feb. 5, in the IRC marked 2019 as its fifth consecutive year. Volunteers from the International Student Organization and Asian Student Organization helped host the event, with students serving food and operating arts and crafts stations in the IRC hall.

"It has become a great opportunity for student organizations to collaborate," van Laar said.

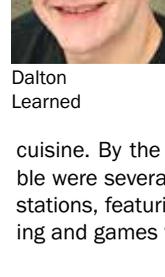
The Five-Star Event featured several musical acts, including a performance of a traditional Hmong song by Johnny Xiang, and traditional Chinese songs performed by singers Hangjian Lui and Xiapei. Leo Hernandez provided a martial arts performance set to music as well.

"I passively celebrate Chinese New Year, kind of like, 'Hey, it's the Lunar New Year! Let's celebrate,'" Ferris mathematics



Dalton Learned

senior Dalton Learned said. "I try and participate in local events, too."



Breanna Marlatt

Ferris students and staff lined up to taste traditional Chinese cuisine. By the food serving table were several arts and crafts stations, featuring origami making and games with various Chinese and Japanese candy as prizes.



"I think it's pretty cool," Ferris digital animation and game design sophomore Breanna Marlatt said.

"I know the significance of the imagery and I know some of the stories, things like that."

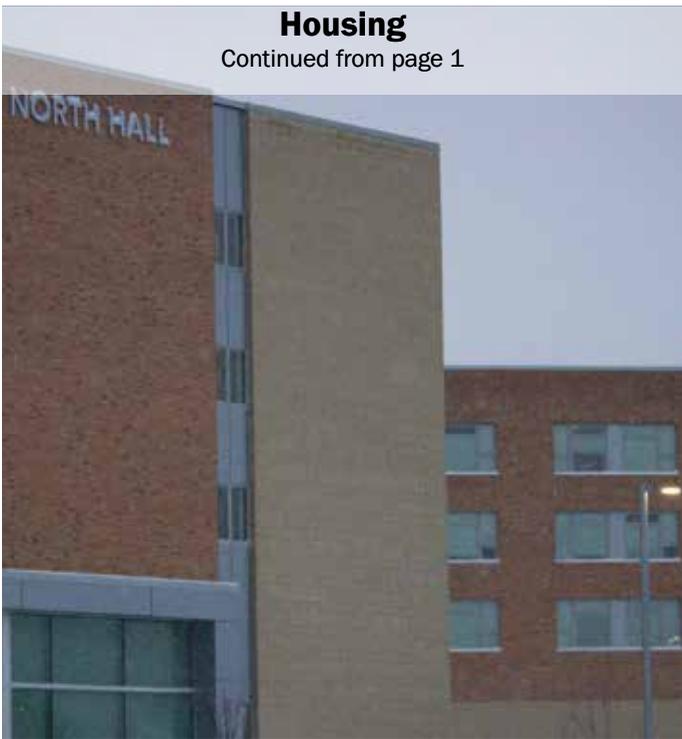
Trifold posters were displayed in the IRC hallways discussing different Lunar New Year celebrations from the Vietnamese, Chinese and Korean New Years. According to the Chinese calendar and zodiac, the year 2019 is the "Year of the Pig." In traditional Chinese culture, the pig is meant to be a symbol of wealth.

"For students coming from abroad and being immersed in American culture, it can represent a little piece of home," van Laar said. "The broader community gets an international experience without having to leave the country or even campus."



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

The Lunar New Year Celebration, hosted by the Ferris Diversity and Inclusion Office, celebrated various Asian cultures with authentic Asian cuisine, as well as musical performances and activities.



Housing
Continued from page 1

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

North Hall is only available to freshmen, so its residents will have to move out as the semester concludes. Other residence halls are available to them, however.

campus.

"Apartments offer more of that home feeling, the feeling that you're grown up and starting that next phase in your life. It's your personal space, it's your bedroom, all of the bedrooms have a lock, and that's your personal space and then you share a common space," Peterson said. "We supply cable and Internet at all three properties. We also have fitness centers at Venlo and Northland Flats, Venlo and Tioga have in-unit laundry and Northland Flats has on-site laundry." Ferris pre-physical therapy



Carli Martin

freshman Carli Martin says a combination of issues with on-campus housing and wanting some of the benefits of being in a house, such as owning pets, has convinced her to move off campus for her sophomore year.

"The single dorms aren't that fun. When you come to college you expect doors to be open and you'll meet some friends, but they close the doors and no one talks to anyone. My window leaks every time it rains, and the pipe above my bed leaks every time it rains too," Martin said. "It's more expensive [to live off campus], but I feel like I'll enjoy it more. A lot of the dorms are run down other than North, which is only for freshmen. My mom went to college here, and the dorms are exactly the same."

Torch awarded by Michigan Press Association

Torch staff accepts awards for "Better Newspaper Contest"

Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

Members of the Torch staff were recognized with 15 awards and honorable mentions at the Michigan Press Association's 2018 "Better Newspaper Contest."

The annual awards banquet Thursday, Jan. 31, in Grand Rapids honored winning submissions judged from 765 entries by 17 Michigan college newspapers.

"It's such an incredible honor. We've won first place in our division for best newspaper for the past two years, and we won second place this year, but it still means so much. We were up against some strong competitors, so to do so well in the competition was great," Ferris journalism and technical communication junior and Torch Editor in Chief Megan

Lewton said.

The MPA Foundation also awarded Lewton a \$1,000 scholarship at the banquet.

The competition is divided into three separate divisions, with the Torch being classified as Division 2 since it is published weekly.

The Torch swept the non-front page design category, taking first, second and third place from 18 entries.

Torch staff members also earned best online newspaper, and took first place in the original cartoon editorial or entertainment category across all divisions.

"Honestly, all of the awards made me so excited, but our current cartoonist, Sam McNeill, won best cartoonist across all divisions, which is seriously awesome. Sam works so hard and it shows. It was definitely well deserved," Lewton said.

Ferris alum and former opinions editor Marley Tucker earned both second place and an honorable mention for her work in the column-review or blog category.

Ferris alum and former editor in chief Keith Salowich was also the recipient of two awards, having won first and second place in the best sports photo category in Division 2.

"One was for the basketball national championship, and the other was for the Anchor-Bone Classic during football season," Lewton said. "Keith is a phenomenal photographer. Some of his photos are some of the best I've seen, so to see him be recognized for his work was fantastic."

Other categories in which the Torch won awards includes best feature photo, multimedia reporting and investigative reporting, among others.

WANTED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Ferris State Torch

2019 - 20 SCHOOL YEAR:

We are seeking an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor in Chief position during the 2019 - 20 school year. Candidates must write well, possess excellent leadership skills and be prepared to work the entire school year. Candidates should be familiar with basic journalistic principles, as well as printed and digital publishing techniques. Qualified students can receive competitive wages for up to 20 hours per week. Ability to work and train in April and August of 2019 is necessary. Prior journalism experience or training required.

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- Copies of articles or other written work
- At least two references (recommendation letters not required)

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Steve Fox at stevenfox@ferris.edu

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Housing options

On-campus housing

Lowest price: \$485 (double room students without a residency requirement)

Highest price: \$935 (two bedroom in East Campus Suites)

This does not include family housing options, which is \$1,156 for a three bedroom

Off-campus housing

Tioga Park Apartments (school year lease)
- Lowest price: \$530 (five bedroom)
- Highest price: \$565 (three bedroom)

University Park Suites
- Price: \$395 (four bedroom)

Venlo Place Apartments (school year lease)
- Lowest price: \$499 (Split level and 2 story)
- Highest price: \$530 (drive under)

Northland Flats (school year lease)
- Lowest price: \$530 (four bedroom)
- Highest price: \$640 (two bedroom)

Campus Village
- Lowest price: \$366
- Highest price: \$800 (What is available for these prices is unspecified)

* All prices are per month unless otherwise noted

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LIFESTYLES

“Our relationship has always been strong, but it continues to strengthen every day.” - Nikki Beardsley - See page 7 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

It's a match

Swipe right for more

Veronica Mascorro
Interim Reporter

The dating scene can be a bit tricky, but Ferris elementary education senior Sarah Heibel has managed to find her relationship through apps like Bumble.

“I was first using the app for dates and then I actually met my boyfriend on there, and now we've been dating two years,” Heibel said.



Sarah Heibel

Heibel thinks dating apps and online dating have developed a bad reputation and are often seen as a primary source for hookups.

“I think people use them more for hookups because they might be lazy and don't want to go out. But if you're a busy person, I feel like they're a good way to meet people,” Heibel said.

Over the years, the purposes for apps like Tinder have changed. When Tinder first became popular, co-creator Sean Rad expressed how it was used as a game in an interview with Time magazine.

“Nobody joins Tinder because they're looking for something,” Rad said. “They join because they want to have fun. It doesn't even matter if you match because swiping is so fun.”

According to a survey done by Simple

Texting, approximately 40 percent of men and women surveyed are looking for a long-term relationship on the app, while others are looking to meet new friends, find casual relationships, get free meals or boost their self-esteem.

While many are still finding short-term connections, Ferris biology and pre-optometry junior Roger Maddux met his girlfriend of nine months through a dating app.



Roger Maddux

“I was using Tinder a couple of years ago for hooking up and then I ended up meeting my girlfriend on it and I haven't used it since,” Maddux said.

Ferris construction management senior Michael Penland also recalls the days of using different dating apps before he was in a relationship, remembering how annoying they could be, but enjoying the overall benefits of online dating.



Michael Penland

“You get to see a wide variety of people and you get to find out a little bit about them before actually meeting them. So, you can decide if you actually

wanted to talk to them or not,” Penland said.



Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

While many students swipe right for fun, Ferris biology and pre-optometry junior Roger Maddux found his girlfriend online.



Bad dates | We've all been there...or have we?



“So, this was my first date with my current girlfriend and we decided to go to the fair. We were having a great time and then I instantly realized I didn't pack anything for motion sickness and I wasn't feeling well. And I decided to tough through it anyways because it was my first date and I ended up vomiting so much in the trash can while at the fair, in public, and she was standing across the road, keeping her distance. And then we went to a park for a walk but then my power steering went out and so my dad came to the park, and I took his car and I dropped her off at home. That was a pretty bad date but it was one of my favorite dates.”

- Ferris accounting sophomore **Matthew Langworthy**

“I went on a double date with my best friend, so I took her on a date the next day. I had to drive an hour to meet this girl and we went to Bob Evans, you know, nice fancy date. And I'm driving home and she's blowing my phone up. And I can't see anything through the fog and she's getting mad that I'm not answering her. I've known this girl for two days and then she asks me, 'So which do you prefer, Chevy or Ford?' And I say that I don't really care as long as it gets me where I need to go. And she blew up and she started sending me paragraphs about what a horrible person I was and how I didn't care about anything, and that she thought that she was going to marry me or something like that and I've only knew her for two days.”

- Ferris physical therapy freshman **James Kendrick**



“I was going out on a first date and we originally made plans to go to Nawal's downtown, but it was closed so at the last minute we had to change where we were going. So we decided to go to Applebee's and the entire time my date did not say a single word until over the loud speaker, a Jesse McCartney song came on and he started singing to it loudly. And then my boss came up and started embarrassing me, and I introduced my date as my teammate because we're on the track team together, and he said 'Oh, teammate!' and slapped my date on the back and said, 'If that's what she thinks of you, the date must not be going well, bye!' So yeah, that date ended very early that night.”

- Ferris biotechnology senior **Jordan Lee**

“I went on a double date one time and things were going okay. We went to the Raven downtown and my friend's date proceeded to watch the Michigan State football game the entire time and did not say a word to my roommate, and after that we decided to go see a movie. We sit down and start watching a movie, and five minutes into the movie, my date falls asleep.”

- Ferris industrial chemistry junior **Travis Whaley**

“It was through a mutual friend and she set me up with her boyfriend's friend. We went to a brewery that was a fancier, high-end brewery. He ended up texting other people while we were on the date. After the date was over, I ended up looking at my phone and I saw that he texted me and I don't know if he thought it was someone and the text said, 'This girl is beyond stupid and uneducated,' and I decided 'Never again.’”

- Ferris elementary education senior **Sarah Heibel**

Conquering communication



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

According to 5lovelanguages.com, there are five primary ways people show love: through gifts, quality time, acts of service, words of affirmation and physical touch.

And finding your love language

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

February is the month of new and old romance alike, with Ferris biology senior Nikki Beardsley spending her own Valentine's Day celebrating 10 years with her husband.



Nikki Beardsley

"My husband was my neighbor's best friend and the day I was moving out, they helped me out. We were friends for about a month before we started dating and we have been together

ever since," Beardsley said.

Although Beardsley has known her husband Alex for 10 years, they've been married for six of them. As their relationship develops throughout the years, Beardsley thinks about all the things that brought them closer together and appreciates the lessons learned.

"Once these things are established, the rest comes easy. In anything, there will be ups and downs, challenges along the way, but being able to effectively communicate is how strong relationships get through them," Beardsley said.

Throughout their time together, Beardsley's husband has been her best friend since day one, having overcome many obstacles over the years.

One struggle Beardsley and her husband are currently facing is living two and a half hours apart. While Beardsley attends Ferris, her home is in Jackson, where her husband is a full-time student and works full time in Chelsea.

"Our relationship has always been strong, but it continues to strengthen every day," Beards-

ley said. "Nothing ever stays the same. The important thing is that you embrace the changes and let them help you grow and help your connection deepen."

The couple makes their relationship work by setting aside time for one another and focusing on communication through this time. Since they lead busy lives, Valentine's Day allows them to celebrate a tradition of dinner and a movie without cellphones or other obligations.

"Sometimes, you have to put your partner first, but do not forget to take care of yourself, too. You cannot make others happy if you don't also invest in your own happiness from time to time as well," Beardsley said.

As the Beardsleys celebrate their 10 years together, Ferris optometry O1 Blaze Sammon celebrates his six-month relationship with Ferris pharmacy P1 Lindsay Christensen after meeting in Henderson Hall four years ago.



Blaze Sammon

"New romance is fun in the sense that you get the opportunity to learn about each other. As time passes, however, the bond has the ability to become stronger, in turn, increasing the connection and quality time," Sammon said.

Christensen said relationships tend to happen when you least expect it and flourish in a natural way, especially when you get to know the person over a period of time as she did with Sammon.

"We've both grown as individuals since we first met freshman year and are very comfortable around each other now because of

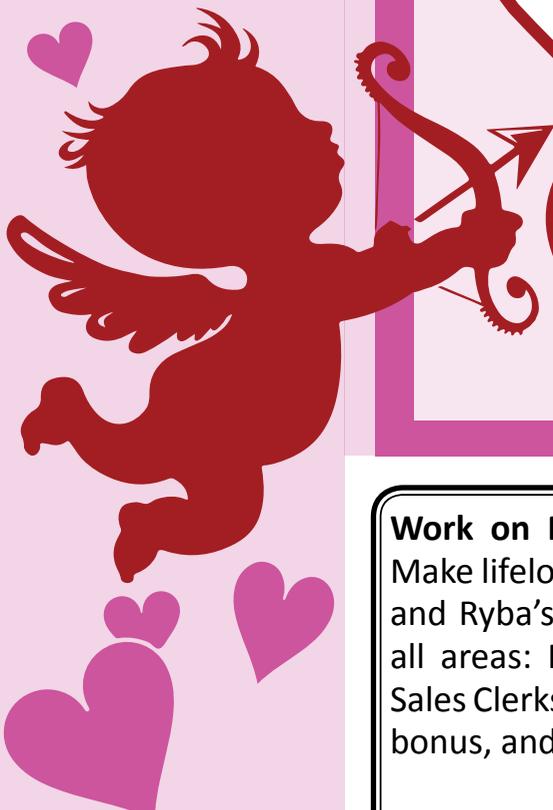


Lindsay Christensen

it," Christensen said.

Whether a relationship is old or new, personal growth will occur with each person, and learning how to communicate within that relationship is vital without losing a sense of identity, something Beardsley, Sammon and Christensen agree is true.

"Do not ever be afraid to be yourself, that is who they fell in love with," Beardsley said. "Keep in mind that you are constantly changing every day, that doesn't mean that you change for someone else. You change because you grow."



Who's your Valentine?

"My husband and best friend, because he is everything to me."
- Ferris biology senior Nikki Beardsley

"My dog Charlie is my Valentine because she is a sweet angel. Every time I come to the door, she comes up and gives you a hug and says hello - gives you kisses, just like any good Valentine should. Then immediately expects you to feed her, like any partner ever. But I love her to death."
- Ferris digital animation and game design sophomore Reese Gingrich

"My boyfriend is actually going out of town, so he won't be here this Valentine's Day. So, probably my family and my dog."
- Ferris sonography freshman Colby Tryon

"Lindsay Christensen aka L-Eazy aka Lilly. She is my Valentine's this year because we are dating, and I appreciate our time together."
- Ferris optometry O1 Blaze Sammon

"It's my boyfriend, Luke Slater, because we've been dating for a while and we like to treat ourselves on Valentine's Day by going out and spending money on things."
- Ferris pre-pharmacy sophomore Kerrie Gehrt

"My Valentine is my mom just because she is always there to support me and give me advice. I'll probably send her a text message saying 'Happy Valentine's Day. Hope you and Dad are doing something fun.'"
- Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Amber Anderson

Graphic by: Hannah Way | Production Assistant

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Happy Gal-entine's Day



Spending the day of love with those you love

Marissa Russell
Interim Reporter

While there are many ways to celebrate Valentine's Day, Ferris pharmacy P1 Britney Ama takes an untraditional route by celebrating Galentine's Day with her friends.



Britney Ama

"I celebrate Galentine's Day because it's just a fun, cute way to spend quality time between you and your girls with a full day of pampering ourselves," Ama said.

For Ama, Galentine's Day typically involves spending the day with

friends and sharing a gift exchange. While sometimes she and her friends go out on the holiday, this year, Ama's planning a study session with her Galentine.

"Galentine's Day is just a reminder to me and my friends that you don't need a significant other to make you feel special," Ama said.



Mallory Karmo

While Ama likes to spend the day with her friends, she doesn't discount the holiday altogether.

"I just think that Valentine's Day should be like an everyday thing, but you don't need to break the bank to show how important someone is to you and that goes both ways in a relationship," Ama said.

With Valentine's Day landing on a weekday, Ferris pharmacy P1 Mallory Karmo will also be spending her Thursday studying and catching up on schoolwork.

"If I had a significant other, I would like to say I would celebrate with them, but I don't have one," Karmo said.

While some will be studying, Ferris history and Span-

ish sophomore Sean Lausin will be spending the evening with his girlfriend. Lausin is planning a night out with dinner and flowers in celebration of the holiday.

As Lausin plans a night of romance, Ferris physical therapy freshman James Kendrick plans an evening of surprise as he will be driving down to Western Michigan University (WMU) to surprise a girl he's been talking to. Kendrick plans on buying her a stuffed bear and chocolates and then taking her out to dinner.



Sean Lausin

Though Kendrick is heading to WMU this year, he never lets a Valentine's Day go by without having a special someone in mind.

"I like to be around people," Kendrick said. "Usually if I don't have anyone for Valentine's Day, I will go do something with my grandma."

When Kendrick and his grandmother celebrate Valentine's Day, they watch a movie and go out to dinner.

Last minute gifts

Feb. 14 sneak up on you? No worries! Here are some foolproof last-minute gifts that would be sure to make your Valentine smile.

Flowers

Places like gas stations, flower shops and grocery stores usually stock up for Valentine's Day, so these are great places to stop by to purchase some last minute flowers.

Chocolate

Chocolate is sold almost everywhere this time of year. If you can't find a box shaped like a heart, buy a bunch of candy bars, a gift bag and tissue paper, and make it look presentable.

Wine

If you and your partner are of legal age, buy them a nice glass of wine, or any alcohol they would like.

Regift

Christmas just passed, and you might be stuck with a gift you were less than pleased with. Wrap it up and give it to your partner to enjoy — unless they were the one who gave it to you.

Gift cards

Buy your partner a gift card to their favorite restaurant or store. If you have time, you could make them a homemade card to make it more personal.



Weekly festivities

WEDNESDAY Feb. 13



Stuff-a-Plush
Location: UCB 202
Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

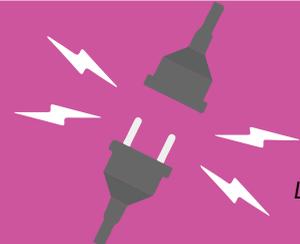
Recovery by the Slice
Location: BHC 203
Time: noon – 1 p.m.

Step Up! Active Bystander Training
Location: UCB 217
Time: 6 – 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Feb. 14



Valentine's Day



FRIDAY Feb. 15

Ferris Unplugged
Location: Rankin Lounge in the UC
Time: 9 – 11 p.m.

SUNDAY Feb. 17



A Star Is Born movie
Location: UCB 202
Time: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.



TUESDAY Feb. 19

Kindness Campaign
Location: CLACS Lobby, UC
Time: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Introductory Welding for Artists
Location: Swann 116
Time: 6 – 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Feb. 20

Self-Compassion Practices for Living Life on Life's Terms
Location: FLITE 304
Time: 12:05 – 12:45 p.m.

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Coffee House
Location: LGBTQ+ Resource Center
Time: 4 – 6 p.m.

B.L.A.C.K. Movie Night
Location: IRC
Time: 7 – 10 p.m.

Design after Disaster: Reimagining the Mississippi Gulf Coast
Location: Granger Center 102
Time: 7 p.m.

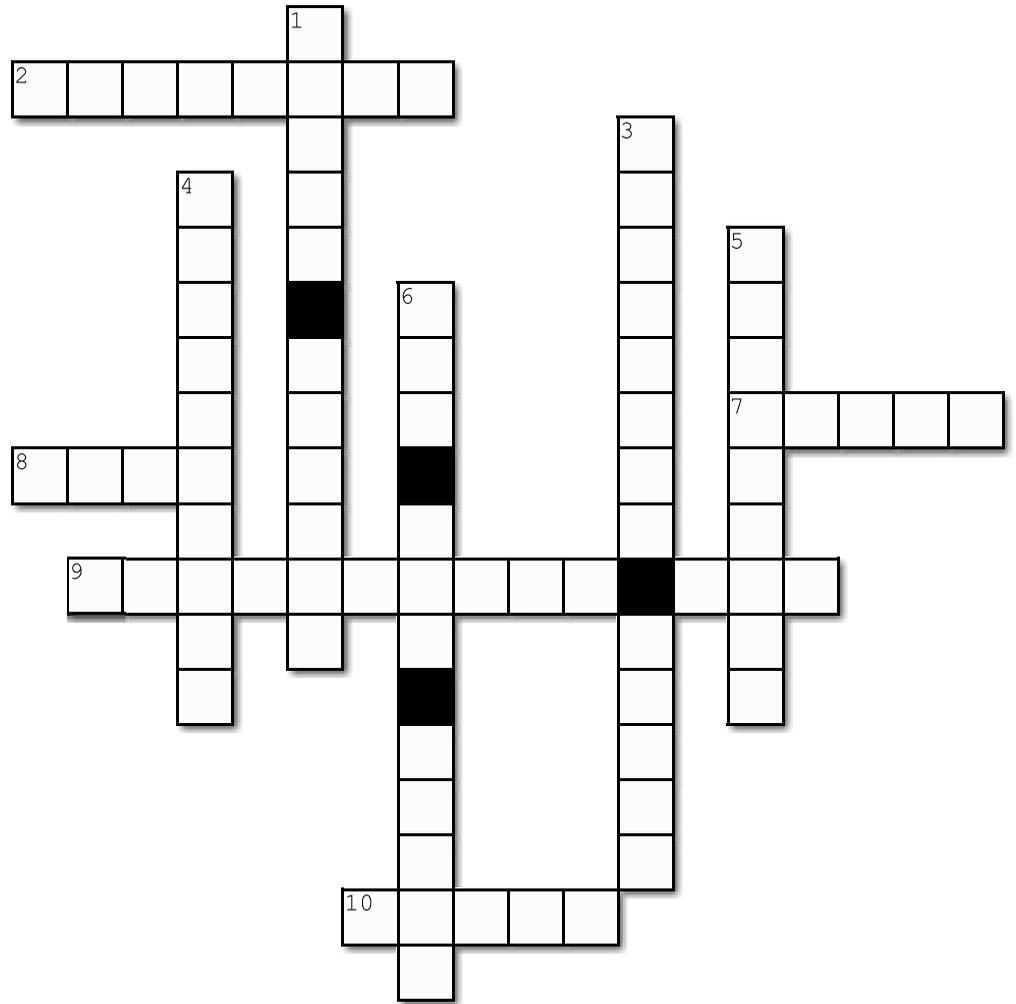


For more information on Ferris events, visit calendar.ferris.edu

Graphic by: Hannah Way | Production Assistant

Day of Love

Happy V-Day, Bulldogs! Celebrate with candy and a crossword.



Across

- 2. This company is blamed for the start of Valentine's Day
- 7. The cherub of romance
- 8. Strong emotion felt on Valentine's Day
- 9. Nationally declared day of romance
- 10. _____ are red, violets are blue

Down

- 1. The sweetest conversation starters
- 3. The reason some people like Feb. 15 more than Feb. 14
- 4. Common event on Valentine's Day
- 5. A typical Valentine's gift
- 6. Cupid's weapon of choice

ANSWER KEY

Across: 2. Hallmark 7. Cupid 8. Love 9. Valentine's Day 10. Roses
Down: 1. Candy hearts 2. Discount candy 3. Engagement 4. Chocolate 5. Bow and arrow 6. Cupid 7. Cupid 8. Love 9. Valentine's Day 10. Roses

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SPORTS

“If a young player didn’t claim that winning is extraordinarily important, then he was off our board.” - Tony Annese - See page 12 for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

Break it down



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris freshman forward Zoe Anderson shows off her dance moves before women’s basketball’s home game against the Wayne State Warriors Saturday, Feb. 9.

Women’s basketball team dances their way to a winning season

Noah Poser and Mollie Hamelund
Torch Reporters

Every team has their own way of preparing for a game and for the Ferris women’s basketball team that includes a dance party in the locker room.

Music has long been recognized as not only a source of entertainment, but also as a device that allows the human brain to focus on upcoming tasks, and it’s fair to say that the team has taken that message to heart.

The players have their dance parties before every game. Not only that, but they have them before practice, too.

“Yeah it’s not formal or anything, it’s just something we do to loosen up before games,” Ferris junior guard Renee Sturm said. “We always have music playing in the locker room when we’re in there before practice and before games. We have people who are really fun when they dance, too, like Shi, Riley, Abby. It’s just how we get ready.”

Renee Sturm

However, being a fun dancer doesn’t necessarily mean that the players are good dancers. According to Sturm, the

best dancers are not always the ones who bust out their groovy moves before every game.

“Riley thinks that she’s the best but she’s definitely down there at the bottom,” Sturm said. “Adrienne is low-key pretty smooth but she won’t dance in front of anyone, and Shi’s pretty smooth, too.”

A lot of teams like music to allow them to lock in before games. The Ferris women’s basketball team is the same way, but they direct that energy in a different direction. While few teams go to the extent of having full-on dance parties to prepare for a battle on the hardwood, the Ferris women’s basketball team has a very clear reason for doing so.

“They’re just a reminder that the game we play every day is supposed to be fun and enjoyable, because sometimes it’s easy to forget that, being how serious we all take the season,” Ferris sophomore guard Adrienne Anderson said. “It’s just something we do to get a laugh before the game and to lighten the mood while still understanding the severity of every game.”

According to Ferris junior guard Riley Blair, the tradition

started two years ago when the team traveled to take on a Saginaw Valley State University squad that was at the top of the league. Ferris, however, sat down at the bottom, having just four wins despite being very late into the season. Everyone was upset and just going through the motions, so Blair busted out her moves to try and put a stop to it.

“I started dancing,” Blair said. “Then I passed it along to someone and they started dancing. We ended up losing the game by only two in overtime to a team that was way out of our league at the time. I think it just showed that no matter how talented you are, if you’re playing uptight and you’re not having fun then you’re not going to be able to compete.”

And thus began the tradition that has stuck around to this day. It doesn’t look like it’s going anywhere anytime soon, either, and any genre in music brings up the group’s mood.

“We have quite the mixture of songs. We have some rap in there. We throw some country in there occasionally. Whatever comes on, we can dance to anything,” Blair said. “We could dance to Beethoven, it doesn’t even matter.”



Adrienne Anderson



Riley Blair

Sports Shorts

Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

Devon Johnson to the Scouting Combine

Ferris senior offensive lineman and All-American Devon Johnson was recently invited to attend the 2019 National Football League (NFL) Scouting Combine. Johnson, alongside 337 other college football players, will showcase his skills in front of every NFL team at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, Feb. 26 to March 4. He is only the second player in school history to receive an invite and the first in 28 years, according to the Ferris Athletics website. The combine puts the athletes through different drills to see whether the NFL team sees them fit for their program. The drills that take place include: 40-yard dash, broad jump, vertical jump, bench press and the three-cone drill. Johnson looks to become yet another Ferris football alum that gets drafted to an NFL team or be on the roster of one.



Devon Johnson

Men's tennis opens spring season

The Ferris men's tennis team officially opened up their spring season with a pair of matches against Division I Western Michigan University (WMU) Friday, Feb. 8, in Kalamazoo. Although it is uncommon that the Bulldogs compete against a higher level of play, it showed on the tennis court as they fell 7-0 in both outings. In the first match of the day, WMU won the doubles set by contests of 6-2, 6-2 and 6-4. Several sets were close during the singles contests, but WMU went on to sweep during the first match. The second match of the day, Ferris lost again 7-0, while they kept up the intensity and kept it close against the higher level of play that is Division I.

Track and Field Big Meet

Both the Ferris men's and women's track and field team competed in Allendale during the Grand Valley State University Big Meet Friday, Feb. 8, and Saturday, Feb. 9. The Bulldogs competed against all divisions across the NCAA and some athletes fared well against the high competition. Ferris sophomore Amanda Esinger placed 12th in the Women's High Jump Open out of 39 that competed. Ferris senior Damien Halverson, who also competed in the Division II Men's Cross Country National Championship in the fall, set a new personal record of 15:07.39 during the 5K race. Ferris junior Katie Etelamaki placed third overall in the Women's 3000 Meter Run Open.



Amanda Esinger

Top Dawg

Cole Walker

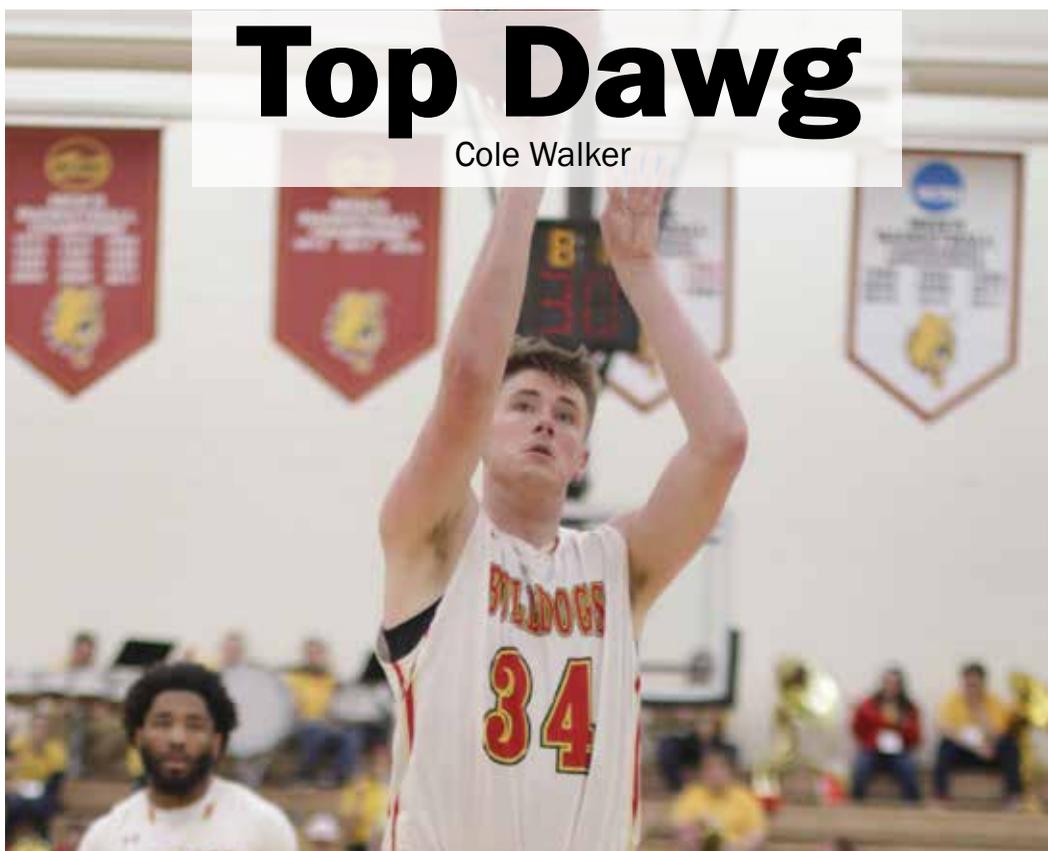


Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Noah Poser
Torch Reporter

This week, the Top Dawg is Ferris junior center Cole Walker.

Walker had a breakout game Saturday, Feb. 9, in a 104-78 victory over the Wayne State University Warriors. The win, which pushed the Bulldogs to 17-9 overall and 9-6 in conference play, ended a two-game losing streak.

In the game against the Warriors, Walker had a career high 35 points and was 12-14 shooting from the field, while nailing nine of his 10 threes and both of his free throw attempts. The nine three pointers weren't only a personal best, but also tied the school's single game record originally set in 1991 by Leon Larthridge, according to the Ferris Athletics website.

On top of that, Walker chipped in six rebounds, dished out four assists and had one block to top it all off.

"I was feeling good and my shots were dropping," Walker said. "My teammates recognized that and just kept feeding me the ball."

What made this performance for Walker even more impressive was the fact that it came out of nowhere.

On the season, Walker is averaging 10.8 points per game on 60.9 percent shooting overall, while knocking down 43.4 percent of his triples this season. He's also averaging five rebounds per game in 26 games this season.

While these are solid numbers, they didn't indicate a record-breaking performance was on the horizon.

Prior to this game, his season-high in points was 17, and that happened Dec. 6 in a win over Northwood University. Walker was also coming off one of his worst outings of the season, scoring just six points on 2-5 shooting in a loss Thursday, Feb. 7, to Ashland at home.

While some may call it a fluke, Walker believes that this game was just the start and a sign of things to come in the future.

Walker and the Bulldogs are back 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, against Northern Michigan University, followed by the Bulldog's senior day in the home finale 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, against Michigan Tech University.

Back on track

Spring season for Ferris track and field in full swing with success throughout the team

Mollie Hamelund
Torch Reporter

The Ferris track and field team has had a successful indoor season so far, despite having to run outside in the harsh weather this winter.

Since Ferris does not have an indoor track facility to use, the team is used to practicing outside and sometimes running in snow or on ice.

Ferris junior runner Gage Cleveland has had his share of working out during the winter time. Cleveland said one of the main challenges of having to workout outdoors for indoor meets is the difference in footing, or finding the best way to run in the snow compared to a warm and dry facility.



Gage Cleveland

When running outdoors, Cleveland said you have to prepare yourself for ice or anything that can be on the ground, but when it's moved to indoors, there's nothing on the track.

"Another challenge is going from running outdoors in the elements every day to then competing inside. This brings a lot of challenges, the first being warm, which sounds crazy but running in 5 degree weather to 70 degrees can be a big shock

to your body," Cleveland said. "Also, this one's relatable, if you ever have ran inside the gym in high school and get that burn in your throat that feels like you just swallowed glass. This challenge isn't as major as the heat but when you're competing and not used to the indoor dry air, it really can annoy you when you are running and feel like you have strep throat."

Ferris freshman runner Paige Deitering is still new to the track program, with only the four meets under her belt, but she said she enjoys the indoor meets.

"With only being a freshman this year, I haven't had much exposure to indoor collegiate meets. The competition is always high and you should always expect to run hard with every race you enter," Deitering said. "With running at indoor meets throughout my middle school and high school career, I personally tend to enjoy indoor meets more than outdoor since you don't have to deal with the elements such as strong winds, rain, etc. Outdoor is nice because some of the indoor complexes tend to have really dry air but overall either season has its pros and cons. Indoor is a great way to get you ready for the outdoor season."

Cleveland also said since he is a cross country runner, it is more difficult for him to go from practicing outdoors to competing indoors.

"As a cross country runner it is definitely more difficult to go from running on a cross country course outside, on a golf course, to running around a circle 15 or more times," Cleveland said. "It's mental, and being able to run straight for lon-

ger than 60-100 meters without having to make another left turn is a blessing."

Deitering also said if the weather is too bad, then the team will be running some laps in the Student Rec Center, but other than that they brave the cold Michigan winters.

"Most likely though, you will find us bundled up and out on the roads that are in the best condition while running in a big group," Deitering said.

The track team has been placing well at their first few meets of the season. In the Saginaw Valley State University Jet's Pizza Invite, Ferris senior Cody Stilwell won the overall weight throw and reached a NCAA Division II qualifying mark with a 19.56 throw in a Division I populated competition. The women's distance medley relay, made up of Taylor Thrush, Hannah Todd, Jennifer Eaton and Katie Etelamaki won their race in a time of 12:21.05 and the men's and women's team totaled 20 top ten finishes on the weekend.

In the Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Big Meet Friday, Feb. 8, and Saturday, Feb. 9, Etelamaki placed third overall in the women's 3000 meter run open among a pool once again full of Division I competition. Ferris took home another top ten finish with Ferris junior long jumper Stanley Williams placing sixth in the men's long jump competition.

Ferris senior Sarah Utchel placed 23rd in the women's 60 meter dash open and the women's 4 by 400 meter relay open team placed 15th with the help of Eaton, Todd and Ferris sophomores Sheridan Brittney and Carissa Schurr.

The track team runs again Friday, Feb. 15, at GVSU for the GVSU Tune-Up.



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Thursday, Feb. 14:

- Women's basketball vs. Northern Michigan University 5:30 p.m.
- Men's basketball vs. Northern Michigan University 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 15:

- Track and field at the GVSU Tune-up
- Women's tennis at Lewis 11 a.m.
- Hockey at Alaska Anchorage 11:07 p.m. EST

Saturday, Feb. 16:

- Women's basketball vs. Michigan Technological University 1 p.m.
- Men's basketball vs. Michigan Technological University 3 p.m.
- Men's tennis at Lewis 7 p.m.
- Hockey at Alaska Anchorage 11:07 p.m. EST



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Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

After the 2018 football team made it to the first football national championship in school history, 33 recruits made their spot on the team official on National Signing Day Wednesday, Feb. 6.

Ferris football adds young depth after National Championship season

Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

Dreams of playing collegiate football came true for 33 new Bulldogs on National Signing Day Wednesday, Feb. 6.

All levels of college football recently brought in players for the upcoming season. Some top prospects hold big press conferences with viewers anticipating which college logo hat the player will chose. Other players just sign their letter of intent somewhere in their high school with family, teammates and friends surrounded for support.

Ferris football head coach Tony Annese and Ferris Athletics held a press conference of their own, where they announced each signee and gave a brief explanation about the player.



Tony Annese

"If a young player didn't claim

that winning is extraordinarily important, then he was off our board," Annese said. "I keep on saying that the best is yet to come and that was kind of our recruiting motto with our guys that we recruited."

As the football team can see a bright future for all these athletes, there are a few that stick out. Notably, as Annese called him the "steal of the class" and a "very, very gifted athlete," is six-foot-one-inch wide receiver Tyrese Hunt-Thompson out of Beatty High School in Cassopolis.

The All-State pick and all-league honoree, Hunt-Thompson is a multi-sport athlete, playing both football and basketball, a trend that Annese likes to see in recruits. On the football field, Hunt-Thompson averaged nearly 12 yards a play while he scored 18 touchdowns during his final season. In his three seasons playing varsity football, he totaled over 4,000 all-purpose yards and played some time on defense, recording 100 tackles.

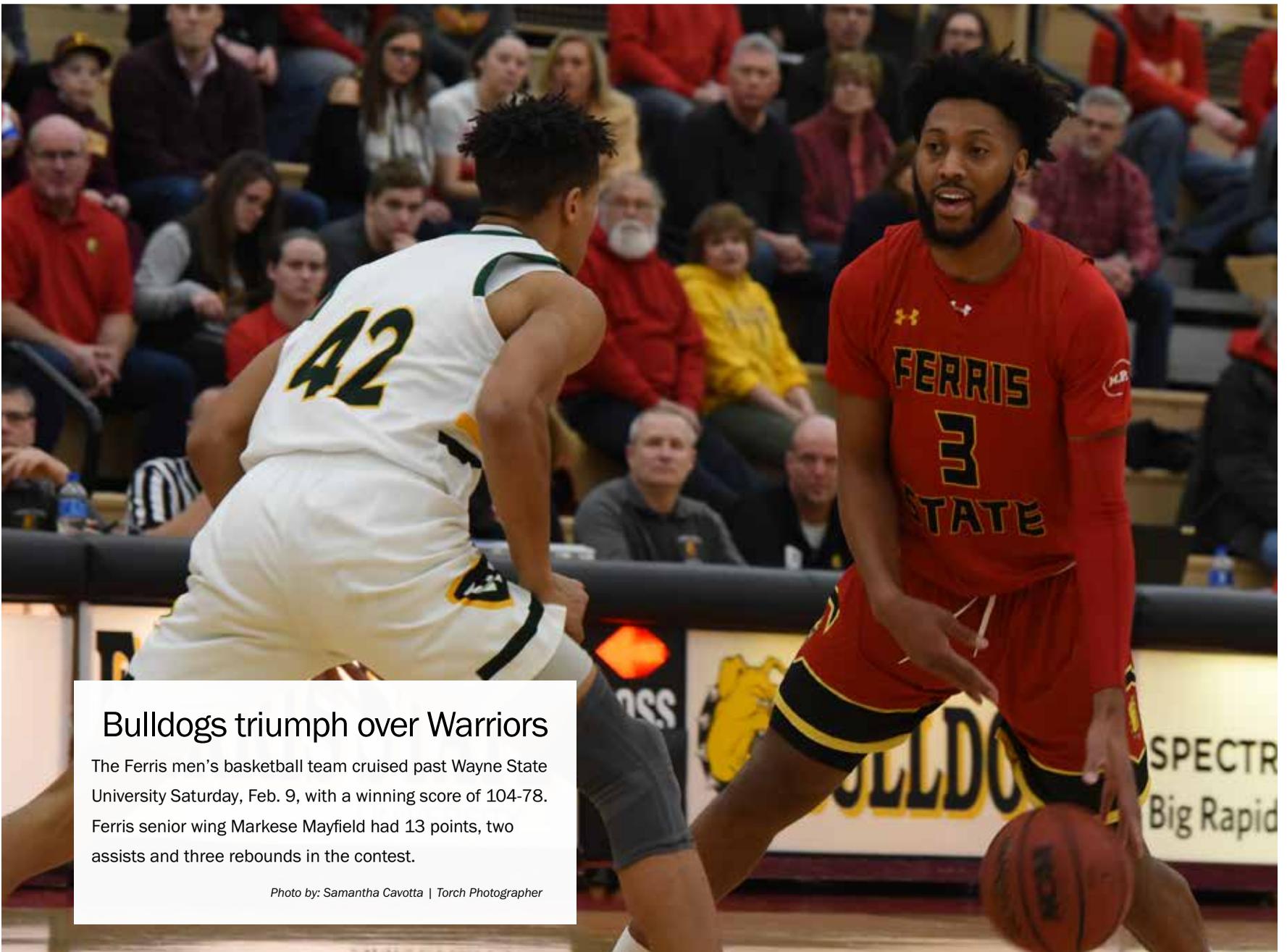
To keep things going on the offensive side and the multi-sport basketball side, a running back out of Denby High School, T'Shawn

Wilkes, was recruited to help in the backfield for the Bulldogs. Wilkes earned many honors after his senior season with the most notable being the 2018 Detroit Public School League Offensive Player of the Year, which he earned by having rushed for 2,165 yards and 33 touchdowns.

"We're thrilled to have T'Shawn," Annese said. "He's going to be a great player here."

Lastly, a threat on both sides of the ball at defensive back and receiver is 170-pound Rayvon Williamson from Detroit Community High School. Williamson intercepted nine passes and returned four of them for touchdowns during his senior season. He also recorded 1,895 all-purpose yards and 27 touchdowns, and was tabbed as a Michigan High School All-State honoree. Williamson has played quarterback, receiver, safety, cornerback and linebacker, and is also listed as one of the state's top prep basketball standouts.

Recruiting has been a big factor that has played into the Bulldogs' success, and with these 33 new players Annese hopes that they can "strike gold" as they have in the past.



Bulldogs triumph over Warriors

The Ferris men's basketball team cruised past Wayne State University Saturday, Feb. 9, with a winning score of 104-78. Ferris senior wing Markese Mayfield had 13 points, two assists and three rebounds in the contest.

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Puff, puff, pass the ball

Is it time for marijuana to be legalized across all national sports, where legal?



Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

It is a hot topic all throughout the sports community, but it is time to allow athletes to use marijuana in states where it is legal.

Bumps and bruises all across the body after playing for more than two hours can take a toll on an athlete. Whether they wake up to muscle aches or being sore, the only way athletes can treat this pain is to take some ibuprofen or to rest. The problem with trying to get rest is once the game is over, practice starts right back up in preparation for the next game. The use of marijuana can take away these factors and relieve the stress for athletes that work their tail off in their sport.

According to an interview published by Bleacher Report, an estimated 85 percent of the National Basketball Association use marijuana and about 89 percent of the National Football League (NFL). Some retired professional players have gone on to say how much marijuana they used before and after games, which would help them with their recovery process. Most athletes don't use marijuana for the pleasure of being under the influence, but more to ease the pain that they feel from practice or games.

Although marijuana is legal in many states that have professional teams like Colorado, California and now Michigan, it is still "illegal" and against the rules for players to use the drug and, if caught, they could get suspended. Although it was illegal in the state he was in, Cleveland Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon used marijuana and was suspended from 2014 to 2016 for failing drug tests. Despite using marijuana throughout his career, it did not slow him down or ruin his numbers that he

produced.

Allowing marijuana also would limit pain-killer and opioid abuse, which happens all throughout the professional sports. According to a lawsuit filed by former NFL players, in the calendar year of 2012, court filings showed that the average team prescribed nearly 5,777 doses of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to their players throughout the season, which can result in painkiller addiction.

On the contrary, it might not necessarily be fair for athletes in states where marijuana is not legal, which could give players an "advantage" when it comes to recovery time. Another instance where this could be harmful is that there are many professional athletes who many kids look up to and if they openly talk about marijuana, it could be instilled in the youth's mind that you have to use marijuana to be a professional athlete.

A study done by Mark Ware, MD, assistant professor of anesthesia and family medicine at McGill University in Montreal (Quebec, Canada), found that marijuana relieves chronic pain. Whereas chronic pain is defined as pain lasting more than 12 weeks, most seasons go well beyond that time frame, as athletes can attest to have played throughout the season with an injury for the betterment of their team or their contract.

Marijuana is proven to help with pain that most professional athletes suffer from, it is just a matter of time before we see a change in the rules.

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OPINIONS

“Valentine’s Day is scarier than the holiday themed on scary: Halloween!”
-Samantha Cavotta - See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

The Ferris State Torch is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by The Pioneer Group.

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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Megan Lewton

Ah, Valentine’s Day: the time for lovebirds to share their happiness with the world, and the time for single people to be bitter about it. Or is it?
Although people associate Valentine’s Day with romance, I think people have departed from strictly celebrating love on the holiday. Instead, it’s become normalized to use this day to show your friends and family how much you love them, as well as your significant other, if you have one.
However, some people are still so bothered by V-Day. Whether their disapproval stems from not being in a relationship or from

hating people being happy, I don’t know. Nevertheless, I think we need to get things back on track and honor what Valentine’s Day is really about: love.
Love comes in many different forms, whether it’s love for your boyfriend, your parents or your dog. I just don’t think we should limit the celebrations of Valentine’s Day to romance only, when love goes so much deeper than that.
So this Feb. 14, if you find yourself dreading the day because you don’t think you have anyone to spend it with, think again. Look around you — your family and

Love isn’t just about romance

friends are very viable options for your Valentine this year. We live in an age of Galentine’s Day (thanks, Leslie Knope) to celebrate your friends (and I don’t think we should limit this to lady friends either. Guys, get in here).
Don’t have a lot of friends? No worries. Spend a day practicing self-care and doing your favorite things. You don’t have to love anyone else when you love yourself.
And if you’re single and you see some couple all over each other in person or making mushy Instagram posts about the other, don’t be cynical about it. Shoot them a smile, press that like but-

ton, whatever.
This is from a single woman preaching to all single people out there. If you’re in love and want to celebrate it on Valentine’s Day, go for it. I am so happy for you. If you’re single and feeling “forever alone,” know that you’re not.
So go out there, buy your body weight in snacks and make some cute paper valentines to give to your gang. Get a group together, go to dinner, have some laughs.
If all else fails, just remember the best part about the holiday: Feb. 15, when all the heart-shaped boxes of chocolate are half off.

DIVIDED OPINIONS

Valentine’s Day only sucks because you make it suck

Millennials, it’s not quite time to give up on Valentine’s Day. Maybe it was the movies, or too many romance novels, but I refuse to believe Valentine’s Day is dead. Valentine’s Day may be a Hallmark centered holiday, but that is no reason to go without celebrating love.

There is nothing wrong with Valentine’s Day, but everything wrong with how we look at it. The word love was originally used to describe feelings towards neighbors and one’s own children. The romantic love that we see advertised across America on Valentine’s Day is a fairly new concept; 100 years ago, people were still marrying for economic gain.

The truth is there is more to love than just romance. At the same time, there is more to Valentine’s Day than just Hallmark cards and empty bank accounts. Stores might load the shelves with heart-shaped candy a month prior, but that does not mean you can’t go have fun with your friends. The holiday is about spending time with those you love, and to recognize and appreciate your relationship



Madison Kettlewell
Torch Reporter

with one another.

Valentine’s Day isn’t just for couples. It can be a celebration of love in any kind of relationship. In today’s day and age, it’s easy to forget to appreciate the people that are there for you every day.

It’s possible to enjoy the holiday on your own terms. If you don’t have a significant other, why not write a note to your best friend telling them you appreciate them? Why not call a family member to catch up and say that you love them? Valentine’s Day will be exactly what you make it.

If you want to spend the day wallowing in self-pity because you don’t have a significant other, that’s on you. The rest of us will be celebrating love — the kind of love you see every day between friends and family. Real, pure love. In the words of Maya Angelou, “If you don’t like something, change it. If you can’t change it, change your attitude.”

How do you value Valentine’s Day?

Valentine’s Day is too much pressure



Samantha Cavotta
Torch Photographer

I am all for romantic gestures, cute love and adorable couples, but a day dedicated to forcing couples into doing such is just WAY too much pressure! Not to mention, is it really all that romantic when it is forced upon us?

Forced romance doesn’t seem like romance to me. I always thought love was supposed to be spontaneous; a specific day for people to express love doesn’t seem spontaneous at all. It is all about the gifts you buy, the expensive restaurants you take them to or the grand EXPENSIVE gestures you perform.

I am too poor to buy someone’s love!

I think that Valentine’s Day is publicized and portrayed as important by the candy companies, restaurant owners and greeting card industries so they can start off the new year with a high profit margin.

Valentine’s Day is scarier than the holiday themed on scary: Halloween! What if he or she won’t be my Valentine? What if I don’t get a reservation? What if they don’t like my gift?! It is nerve wracking! Unless you sell candy, flowers or greeting cards, you should be scared this Valentine’s

Day!

You may need to dish out a bunch of money to express that you like someone on this day or you are forever deemed a terrible romantic.

Most of the time, we are not supposed to be all affectionate and lovey in public — it is weird to see and kind of gross. When people are overly affectionate in public, it makes single persons feel bad about themselves. That is just cruel! I am not saying don’t hold hands — I am saying please stop groping each other in the hallway, I have a class to be in. Not to mention think of all the children you are traumatizing.

On a more positive note for Valentine’s Day, the best parts, in my opinion, the greatest reason to celebrate the holiday is: the next day! All that heart-shaped candy will be priced at 50 percent in the stores!

That being said, to my Valentine Slade, you will not be getting anything this Valentine’s Day.

Please don't impeach Trump

Impeaching Donald Trump could hurt Democrats more than his presidency



Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Donald Trump's presidency has been what most people assumed it would be — polarizing.

As it stands, eight members of Trump's campaign team have been arrested and charged during the Mueller probe into Russia's election interference. This has undoubtedly fanned the flames of those hoping to see a successful impeachment of Trump. Many in opposition of the president are starting to believe it's a question of when he will get impeached, rather than if he will. I'm hoping they are wrong.

I stand firmly against the majority of Trump's policies and ideals: the wall, his xenophobic views on Mexico and the Middle East, and his massive tax cuts for the wealthiest of Americans. However, these don't compare to my concerns about what a Mike Pence presidency could mean for America, and what an impeachment could mean for the Democratic Party.

If he were to become president, Pence's goals can be succinctly summed up in one word — theocracy. Pence quite literally believes he's doing God's work and holds policy beliefs that are far more based in biblical text than in legal text. As Michael D'Antonio, author of "The Shadow President: The Truth About Mike Pence," said, "He is absolutely certain that his moral view should govern public policy."

Those moral views are completely based around his conservative Christian faith in a country that is increasingly less evangelical.

It is not, and never will be, Pence's religion that bothers me, but rather the policies that come along with his intensely religious beliefs, namely three. First, Pence was, and still is, an outspoken supporter of a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Second, he is a supporter of the widely disproven practice of gay conversion therapy, which has been deemed unethical by the American Psychiatric Society and shown to increase suicide risk threefold by those involved. And third, he is a supporter of banning abortion, going as far as referencing people who are in support of the death penalty for those who get an abortion.

While Trump has less-defined goals and more opposition in both political parties, Pence is on a mission to let his religious ideals become the governing law of the country, and that's scarier than what Trump can accomplish before 2020.

Unrelated to a Pence presidency, impeachment could unintentionally backfire on Democrats in the 2020 election. As described in a December article published by USA Today, New York Rep. Jerry Nadler, who was a Junior Congressman during Bill Clinton's impeachment and is likely to head the Judiciary Committee overseeing a Trump impeachment, has warned that an impeachment needs to come with enough evidence to convince Trump supporters that he needs to be removed from office. In essence, if Trump supporters and other Americans aren't convinced that Trump truly deserves to be removed from office, it can cause severe lack of trust in the government, and specifically the Democratic Party spearheading the impeachment. We need not look any further than when Bill Clinton was impeached. In the following midterms, Republicans actually lost seats to Democrats as public opinion turned on the Republicans, who many believed overreached by impeaching Clinton.

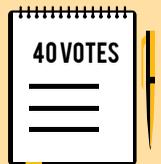
Impeaching Trump would surely change the course of the country but also could have a profoundly local impact. As Trump looks to build a wall and cut taxes for the rich, Pence could — and probably would — take aim at gay rights and abortion, and if those things don't impact you personally, they surely impact someone you know. In addition, for those in support of the Democratic Party, which Pew Research shows includes 59 percent of Millennials and 58 percent of four-year college graduates, a successful election season for Democrats in Michigan could be easily reversed by distrust in the party if Trump is impeached.

With all of this being said, you still don't have to like Trump or agree with anything he is doing, but please for the sake of America and the Democratic Party, don't impeach him.

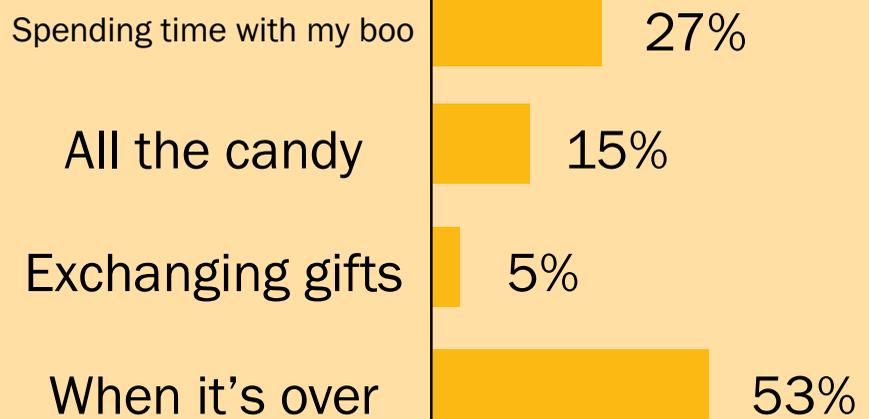


Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

TORCH POLL RESULTS



What's your favorite part about Valentine's Day?



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Online entry must be turned in by Friday, March 22, 2019
The Pioneer employees and families are not eligible to vote.

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