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**HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE**

**KICKING BUTTS**  
*Read a follow-up on Ferris' tobacco-free campus initiative and how the Public Health Student Association is working towards this goal.*

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**WRONG SIDE OF HISTORY**  
*Ferris hockey missed the playoffs for the first time in program history. Read about the season and see some senior stats.*

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# The Dolezal dilemma



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons  
Photo illustration by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) canceled their plans to bring Rachel Dolezal to campus after many students and alumni expressed their anger with it. Dolezal is a controversial figure known for identifying as black when she has no known African ancestry.

## Campus event canceled following community outrage

**Megan Lewton and Madison Kettlewell**  
Editor in Chief and Torch Reporter

What was originally intended as an educational campus event sparked a controversy that spread across social media, prompting the cancellation of the event altogether.

The Ferris chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) announced they planned to bring Rachel Dolezal to campus at the end of March to speak about African history in modern society. Dolezal was the former president of the Spokane, Washington, chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and is known for falsely identifying as black when she has no known African ancestry.

The announcement of the event was described by Ferris business administration senior Marisa Durant as "a slap in the face," and many others agreed.

"I'm pretty sure there's plenty of people they could've found of color to come and speak on that specific topic," Ferris sociology senior Durshana Kirby said.

Ferris public relations senior and PRSSA President Ashley Finstrom said a few students in the organization chose to invite Dolezal to

campus after watching her documentary in May 2018. The registered student organization began scheduling the event in May and continued the planning process throughout Fall 2018.

"The purpose of this event was to engage the campus community in an educational and diverse discussion on race. PRSSA shares the university's commitment to opportunity, diversity and learning, especially in regards to sensitive topics and differing perspectives," Finstrom said.

During the planning, the organization had to find sponsors to bring Dolezal to campus. Among those asked to sponsor the event was the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS), who was approached about the matter by a student in May 2018.

"I declined the offer for OMSS to co-sponsor and suggested that he have a conversation with Diversity and Inclusion Office about the event, as well as advised him to reach out to multicultural organizations to see if they were interested," OMSS Assistant Director Michael Wade said.

The event was ultimately funded by the Student Activity Fund and was sponsored by The College of Business Dean's Office and the Of-

fice of Diversity and Inclusion.

In a now-deleted Facebook post, PRSSA shared the event onto their profile Wednesday, Feb. 27, the day they announced it via email. The post received many comments, the majority of which were negative, containing requests for PRSSA to cancel it.

Hours later, PRSSA made another post saying the decision to bring Dolezal to Ferris was under review, which received 18 reactions and comments each.

"We have heard your concerns expressed about the Rachel Dolezal event that is scheduled for Monday, March 25 on the Big Rapids campus. Our organization is evaluating your feedback and giving it strong consideration," the post said.

However, the negative feedback continued, with angry students and alumni expressing their disapproval in the comments section. In addition, 22 people gave one-star reviews concerning the Dolezal event on the PRSSA Facebook page; as these were the only posted reviews, they have given the page an overall one-star rating.

PRSSA held an emergency meeting Thursday, Feb. 28, to discuss the event's future. The organization ultimately decided to cancel the event, a choice that did not come easily.

"It was a difficult decision, but ultimately, it

Dolezal | see page 4

### MAY 2018

- PRSSA students decide to bring Rachel Dolezal to speak on campus

- PRSSA begins looking for sponsors. They approach the Office of Multicultural Student Services, who declines the offer.

### FALL 2018

- PRSSA presents their plan to receive funding from the Student Activity Fund. The event is accepted.

### FEB. 27, 2019

- PRSSA announces Rachel Dolezal event via email and Facebook. Shortly after, the Facebook post is flooded with disapproving comments.

-PRSSA announces the event is under consideration after receiving negative feedback.

### FEB. 28, 2019

- PRSSA holds an emergency meeting and decides to cancel the event.

- PRSSA holds a discussion to allow those harmed by the planned event to express their frustrations.

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## NEWS

"A lot of people don't understand that the mouth is the window to the rest of your body."  
- Jocelyn Gomez - See page 4 for story

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

# Put it on ice



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

A Bulldog shovels snow to clear the walkways on campus. With the extreme winter weather Michiganders have faced, the roads and sidewalks have been slippery and difficult to walk on.

## The real impact of winter weather

Landry Shorkey  
Torch Reporter

There is no doubt that Ferris has experienced a particularly brutal winter season, and it has affected students and staff alike.



Thomas Campbell

With three snow days in one week, the conditions have made history. Classes were canceled Jan. 28, Jan. 30 and Jan. 31 due to extreme cold and heavy snowfall.

"For me it was kind of nice, because I had an exam during that time, so I was able to have a little extra time to study for it and relax," Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Thomas Campbell said.

Many students did not like being stuck inside during the snow days.

"I liked it, but I was stuck in my room so I couldn't enjoy it that much," Ferris digital animation and game design sophomore Jacob Robinson said. "I stayed in my room all day, ate Ramen Noodles and watched anime."

As more than a month has passed since the three campus closures, weather conditions have continued to be extreme. With bitterly cold temperatures and multiple snowstorms, many students have experienced multiple class cancellations.

"One of my professors commutes from Grand Rapids, so he's been canceling class a lot. I think it's good that he cancels classes, because you know, safety comes first, but also, we are now a couple weeks behind in the class," Campbell said.

The harsh weather has impacted the Ferris community outside of the classrooms.

"We've seen an increase of what we call 'PDA' or 'Property Damage Accidents,' but we really haven't seen a noticeable increase where people were injured," Ferris Department of Public Safety (DPS) Chief Bruce Borkovich said.

DPS did not respond to any major incidents during the days where classes were canceled, but the harsh weather did affect the way in which officers and student workers did their jobs.

"We had two officers take pretty bad falls during that ice storm in our lot, so it can be dangerous. We also have student employees, and besides the students who are out enforcing parking regulations, we also have our foot patrollers. We tasked them both with some different duties that week. That week, their job was to go around and help students. They gave jumpstarts to 62 students' vehicles," Borkovich said. "That isn't normally what they do, but we're going to adapt to the times. So if it's extreme weather, far more important than writing a parking ticket is getting students unstuck or jump-starting their car so they don't have to pay a \$100 wrecker bill."



Nathaniel Cornell

The Ferris Outdoor Club was another group that snow and cold has had a major impact on. Ferris product design engineering technology senior and Outdoor Club President Nathaniel Cornell said that winter hikes and community service events have been canceled due to the weather.

"We still try to do as much as we can, weather permitting," Cornell said. "We did a lot more last year. This year, I feel like it's been colder and it's kind of prevented us from going on as many hikes and the attendance has been dropped a lot."

# Kicking butts

Student organization continues working to make Ferris tobacco-free

Dan Deitsch  
Torch Reporter

The American Cancer Society awarded Ferris with a grant in 2017 to help the university become a tobacco-free campus, and students are still working towards this goal.

"At this stage, we are finalizing the last of our data collection and we are in contact with Dr. Jerry Scoby, the Vice President of Administration and Finance, as to what our next steps will be," Ferris Public Health Student Association (PHSA) President Samuel Stover said.

PHSA, with help from Ferris public health assistant professor Fathima Wakeel, applied for the grant during the Spring 2017 semester.



Fathima Wakeel

"What we're doing is what public health is all about," Wakeel said. "I'm thrilled that I'm able to bring the students in so actively to show and apply the concept that we show in the classroom in terms of advocating for public health."

Since June 2017, PHSA and Wakeel have worked toward this goal, including hosting the November 2018 Great American Smokeout (GASO) event in the University Center (UC). GASO, a nationwide event, encourages American tobacco users to quit smoking for one day. PHSA, along with the Birkam Health Center and District 10 Health Department, educated Ferris students on the impacts tobacco use has on individuals and the people around them.

"Our policy is not to tell people to quit," Wakeel said. "Just don't do it where it's going to affect people on campus, because we want everyone to be safe. There's also a large environmental impact on



Rylie Brunk

smoking. It makes the campus look dirty for visitors. It's not a good image."

"Cigarettes are all over campus, and it makes the campus look dirty," Ferris dental hygiene sophomore Rylie Brunk said. "They have those ashtrays right by the doors. It encourages smoking close to the buildings."

PHSA also conducted a campuswide survey asking Ferris students their opinions for having a tobacco-free campus, which yielded 713 responses.

"Overall, our findings indicated there is strong support for a tobacco-free campus at Ferris," Wakeel said.

Many universities across Michigan have adopted tobacco-free policies in recent years. Michigan State University (MSU), Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University and the University of Michigan have all adopted tobacco-free campus policies in the last 20 years, with MSU adopting their policies August 2017.

"Ferris really needs to get on it," Wakeel said. "I hear students say, 'I came here, and I was really surprised to see people smoking. I never thought that would be allowed.'"

PHSA will continue its work throughout the Spring 2019 semester and will host the Kick Butts Day event Wednesday, March 20, in the UC.

# - ON THE RECORD -

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

## The skunks are at it again

**Cora Hall**  
Sports Editor

### Get off the road

Feb. 25, 12:09 a.m., a student was stopped for having expired plates at Perry Avenue and Clark Street. Officers determined that the plate did not belong on the vehicle and the vehicle was not registered to be on the road. The officers wrote the student a ticket for driving an unregistered vehicle.

### Haven't learned from others' mistakes

Feb. 26, 11:17 a.m., officers were dispatched to Clark Hall due to smell of marijuana. They searched a room of a student and the student showed the officers the marijuana. The student was written a citation for being a minor in possession of marijuana and referred to the Office of Student

Conduct.

### The skunks are at it again

Feb. 26, 7:08 p.m., officers were dispatched to Bond Hall, where resident advisers reported the smell of marijuana. Officers spoke with a resident, who admitted to having marijuana and showed officers the marijuana. The student was written a citation and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

### Not the smartest move

Feb. 26, 7:08 p.m., a subject in the resident's room from the case above had a warrant for his arrest for assault in Grand Rapids. The officers arrested the subject.

### Maybe check it now and again

Feb. 27, 2:23 p.m., a student had his bike locked on a rack near the University Center

and reported that it was stolen. The student said he hadn't been back to the bike in a while, so the time of the theft is unknown.

### Changing locations doesn't help

Feb. 28, 12:39 a.m., officers were patrolling Lot 5 and saw two people sitting in their car. It allegedly smelled like marijuana and upon the students consenting to having the car searched, the officers found marijuana. Officers wrote both students citations and referred them to the Office of Student Conduct.

### Don't be a d-ck, man

Feb. 28, 4:11 p.m., officers were dispatched to Lot 61 because someone used a waxy paint to draw a penis on a student's car. It is unknown who painted it.

### Smells dank, bro

Feb. 28, 8:21 p.m., officers were dispatched to Puterbaugh Hall where it was reported that the odor of marijuana was coming from a room. Officers made contact with a student in the hall, who consented to having their room searched and the officers found marijuana. The student was written a citation for possession of marijuana and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

### I guess they missed the bus

Feb. 28, 9:22 p.m., the hall director at Brophy-McNerney reported that a Chippewa school bus was parked blocking the road. By the time officers arrived, the bus had left and was seen driving down State Street.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 352 tickets from Feb. 24 to March 2, totaling \$5,580.

## WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

**Megan Lewton**  
Editor in Chief

### Worldwide

Fish populations across the globe are declining due to multiple causes, one alarming factor being the warming of the oceans. A study showed the amount of seafood that could be sustainably harvested by humans shrank by 4.1 percent from 1930 to 2010, which is about 1.4 million metric tons of fish. The northeast Atlantic Ocean and the Sea of Japan have seen the biggest impact, with fish populations plummeting by as much as 35 percent between 1930 and 2010. Oceans have absorbed 93 percent of the heat trapped by greenhouse gases, and an earlier January study in "Science" revealed ocean temperatures were increasing significantly faster than estimated. Unsustainable overfishing is also an ongoing problem.

Original article by Kendra Pierre-Louis, Feb. 28, 2019. *The New York Times*.

### Beirut, Lebanon

A group of women's rights activists were recent-

ly investigated by Saudi Arabia's public prosecutor after being accused of trying to "undermine the security" of the kingdom through their activism. Seventeen activists, both men and women, were arrested in May 2018 for pressing the right of women to drive but have not faced formal charges yet. Although Saudi Arabian officials deny the mistreatment of the arrested, relatives of the activists and others familiar with the cases claim some activists were tortured during interrogation.

Original article by Ben Hubbard, March 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

### Warri, Nigeria

A leaking pipeline exploded in southern Nigeria, causing a stampede, and now, more than 50 people are missing. The explosion also caused a large oil spill in the nation. Police published an official death count of at least 12, but witnesses estimate at least 60 have died. It is unclear whether the pipeline has been shut down at the time of reporting.

Original article by The Associated Press, March 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Megan Lewton**  
Editor in Chief

### Beta Game Night

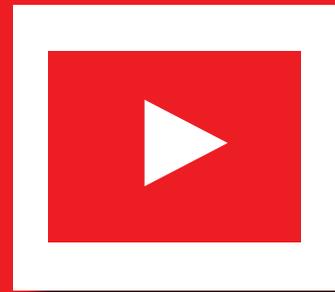
Join the Ferris State Betas to play video games 7 p.m. Thursday, March 7, in IRC 120. Game consoles such as Xbox, Playstation and Nintendo Wii will be available for use. For more information, contact Aaron Bontrager at bontraa@ferris.edu.

### Ferris State Day at Little Caesars Arena with the Detroit Pistons

Watch the Detroit Pistons play the Chicago Bulls with a ticket package unique to Ferris students and alumni Sunday, March 10. The ticket package includes a ticket, a hat, a chance to take a shot on the court after the game and a \$5 donation to the Ferris Foundation for the FSU Alumni Legacy Endowment. Ticket prices start at \$20, and the game tips off at noon. For more information, contact the Alumni Association Office at 231-591-2345.

### Halls close for spring recess

Residence halls will close for spring break Friday, March 8, with spring break occurring the week of March 11. Residents must leave their halls during this time, as campus will be closed for the following week. For more information, contact Diane Johnson at housingfacilities@ferris.edu or 231-591-3745.



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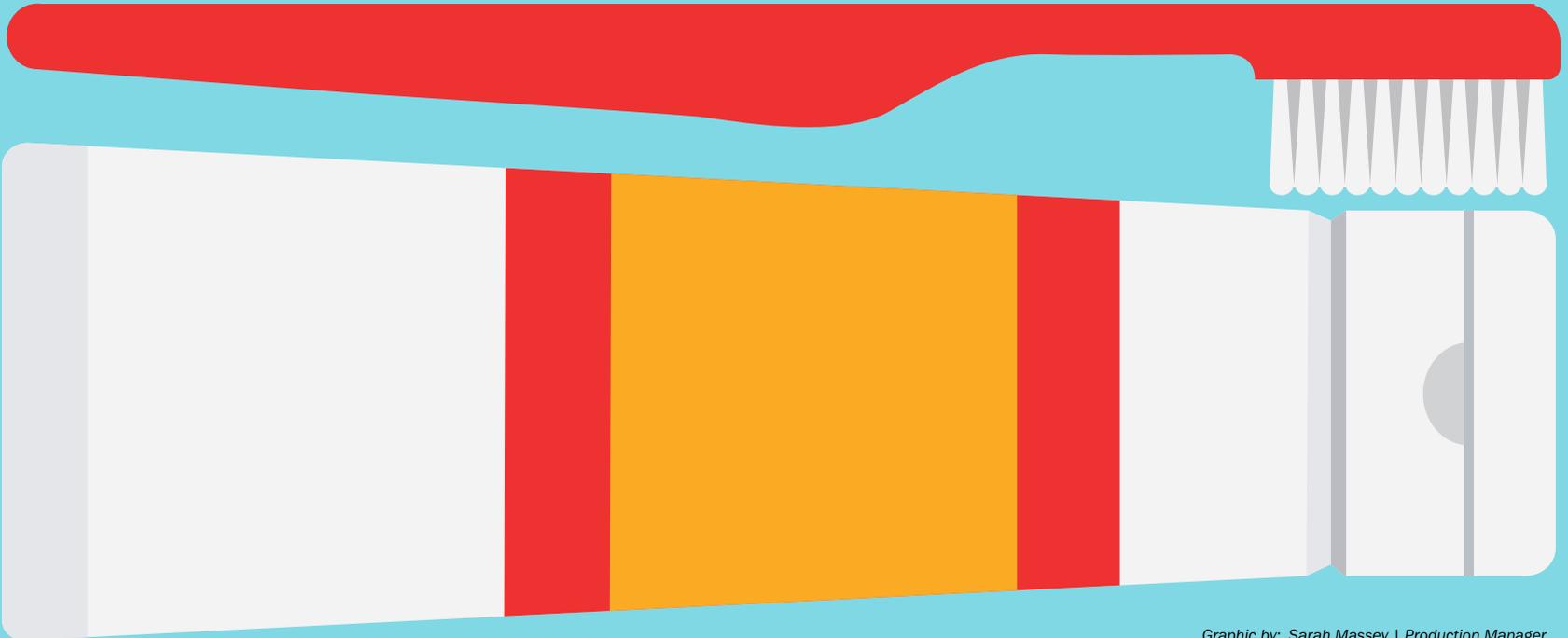
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# Smiles for miles

Ferris Dental Hygiene Clinic helps  
keep the community smiling



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

**Madison Kettlewell**  
Torch Reporter

The Dental Hygiene Clinic, part of Ferris' dental hygiene program, offers low cost dental services for communities surrounding Big Rapids.

Services at the clinic include teeth cleaning, fluoride treatments, x-rays and sealants, and are performed by Ferris students under supervision. The program, which is three years long, has been at Ferris since 1967.

"Most people don't just look inside their mouth and stare at it for a long time, so it's really important that we show them what we see as a dental hygienist," Ferris dental hygiene senior Jocelyn Gomez said. "A lot of people don't understand that the mouth is the window to the rest of your body."



Jocelyn Gomez

According to the program's website, the first year consists of prerequisite courses, and students are considered to be pre-professional. During the last

two years of the program, or the professional sequence, students work in the Dental Hygiene Clinic.



Kimberly Beistle

"It's a fully functioning patient treatment clinic. We see patients from surrounding communities." Ferris dental hygiene professor and program coordinator Kimberly Beistle said. "It's hands-on patient treatment, so you're modeling in our clinic what they will see in private practice. Even though we give them a little bit longer time to treat the patient, it's getting them ready for real world application."

Beistle said one sealant is \$10 in the clinic, compared to private practice, where it's \$60-70 a sealant. The money made at the clinic goes to the general operating fund for Ferris.

"It's affordable. A lot of people don't have dental insurance and here it's only \$30 for a cleaning," Ferris dental hygiene senior Kelsey LaBonte said. "In an office, you're going to pay a lot more for that."

Gomez said going into the program, she didn't know

dental hygienists could do more than just clean teeth. She was surprised to learn that they could provide nutritional counseling and tobacco cessation counseling.

"We check for oral cancer for people who are smoking or chew. We check for diseases related to oral cavities. We do nutritional counseling for people who you can see

that are more on the sugary side of eating habits or drinking sodas or coffees, we help with that," Gomez said.

The Ferris program currently consists of 39 first-year students and 42 second-year students. Gomez claims the professors in the program are very helpful and willing to answer student questions, but the program can still be difficult at times.

"You have to be willing to put your best foot forward and really dedicate yourself to the program," Gomez said. "You're not going to be perfect the first time around; it is something that you have to work hard towards. Not everyone is perfect the first time that they scale their first tooth."



Kelsey LaBonte

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Dolezal

Continued from page 1

became clear that our goal of facilitating a tough conversation wasn't going to be reached," Finstrom said.

PRSSA also held a discussion Thursday, Feb. 28, following the event's cancellation to allow students to express their thoughts and show the situation has affected them.

After PRSSA announced the event's cancellation via Facebook post Thursday, Feb. 28, some comments expressed forgiveness, but the majority of the 33 comments were filled with upset people wishing Dolezal was never hired in the first place.

Many students, like Ferris integrative studies senior Thomas Murry, are pleased with PRSSA's decision to cancel Dolezal's presentation.



Thomas Murry

"I'm glad that they cancelled the event and not let it continue to go on. If they were going to let it continue to go on, then this whole campus perspective would have changed. A lot of stuff wouldn't really be positive, you would just be having a lot of negative activity going on," Murry said. "In reality, it just touched a lot of people on this campus in a very negative way. So, I'm glad that they actually cancelled the event, but from here on out, there will be other accommodations to the point where we will never see this happen again."

Durant, on the other hand, doesn't believe PRSSA's apology was genuine.

"I went to the meeting yesterday with PRSSA and I just don't really, though we expressed how we felt about it, I don't feel as though their apologies were really sincere. It honestly felt like a public relations apology, in all honesty, and I just think that we deserve

more on campus," Durant said.

Kirby is surprised that no one put a stop to Dolezal's presentation before it was scheduled.

"I know they probably had to present in front of the finance division, and all of these things have to get approved, so it's like, nobody saw an issue with this? No one thought that there might be an issue?" Kirby said.

Murry agreed that there is some blame on the university for allowing the event's approval.

"Another thing too is the school. I feel that if you're giving people funding to bring her up here, knowing that it was going to create chaos and everything like that, then how is it easy for them to get funding for an event through the finance division? And we have other student organizations here on campus that work their asses off to get money from the finance division, and we can't even get money from them," Murry said.

According to Finstrom, PRSSA is working with Student Affairs and the Diversity and Inclusion Office to help make amends, and they plan to contact other organizations to prevent this from happening again.

"When something like this affects so many people in a negative way, all you can hope is that something positive arises from it. My hope is that the discussion continues and moves us toward growth and empathy for one another," Finstrom said.

Durant hopes PRSSA will see just how significantly the scheduling of Dolezal affected students.

"Look, when you're scheduling an event for a whole campus, you need to look from all different perspectives. How will this affect me? And I think as public relations, that's one of the top things you should be looking at. This was just a really, really, really big mess up. I just wish that they really just understood how it hurt us. It really did hurt us," Durant said.

# The waiting game



Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Merrill Hall had stood empty since 2017, but its demolition is not in sight.

## Taggart, Merrill and Travis Halls remain empty indefinitely

Landry Shorkey  
Torch Reporter

Many students have been wondering what is planned for the empty residence halls on campus, and it appears that nothing will be done with them anytime soon.

Three residence halls — Taggart, Merrill and Travis — are currently unoccupied. According to a 2016 Torch article by Harley Harrison, Merrill and Travis residents received an email stating the halls would be closing at the start of the 2017-18 school year.

Ferris Vice President of Administration and Finance Jerry Scoby said that the halls will likely be demolished, but it may be a few years before any action to do so is taken.



Marta Schick

“What we don’t want to do is tear them down, improve the site and then come back a year later and do something new there, because if we were to do it that way, we would actually be wasting money by dressing up the site after the building came down, and then when you come back in to build something else there, you’re going to tear up the landscaping and things that you put in,” Scoby said.

Some students feel that the halls could continue to serve a purpose in the meantime rather than standing empty.

“I think it’s unfortunate. I think there’s a lot that could be done and people could still live there, but I don’t know the exact specifics of why they closed. I have a lot of family members that went to Ferris, so they lived in those dorms and it’s kind of just sad to see that end,” Ferris information security and intelligence junior Marta Schick said.

However, the closing of those halls is a matter of supply and demand between available housing and student enrollment.



Katherine Fodor

“It’s a question of if you’ve got so many beds to offer and you have fewer students than that, you need to be thoughtful about the cost to open and operate a building,” Scoby said.

Despite the empty buildings, North Hall was built in 2017, and set an enviable new standard that is difficult for the other residence halls on campus to match.

Ferris product design engineering technology freshman Katherine Fodor believes students in the honors program deserve nicer buildings similar to North Hall.

“It’s a slap in the face as an honors student, because for how hard we work, I feel like we deserve nicer, more technologically advanced buildings that are closer to our classes on campus,” Fodor said.

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*For a complete  
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Students who enroll for at least six credits are eligible to receive free housing in North Hall, the newest residence hall on campus. North Hall is located adjacent to the University Center and is in close proximity to many academic buildings.

**Questions may be directed toward the Office of the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, at 231-591-3660.**



# LIFESTYLES

"Not all heroes have the moral compass of the Avengers, or feel it's their duty to protect society like the Justice League."  
- Briana Hammontree - See page 8 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

## Textbook injuries

### My achy breaky back

**Briana Hammontree**  
Torch Reporter

For Ferris medical laboratory science freshman Brooke Allen, dealing with shoulder and back pain is something she has dealt with since before college.

"I did hair for a while before I started here. I was in cosmetology for a few years and that screwed up my back a little bit. I sort of suffered through the pain," Allen said.



Brooke Allen

The American Chiropractic Association found that experts estimate up to 80 percent of the population will experience back pain at some time in their lives.

While Allen doesn't find her conditions as severe as other students, she finds that students

don't always consider their own health when it comes to toting around heavy objects.

"I think it does come from pushing ourselves too much, because I'm not super strong, so carrying a backpack with three books in it can be pretty heavy," Allen said.

Back and muscle aches can stem from various causes, including poor posture, carrying too much, medical conditions or working long hours.



Eileen Nelson

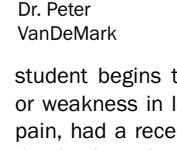
"I think our jobs definitely play a role in back pain or you're on your feet a lot," Ferris forensic biology junior Eileen Nelson said.

However, students can treat muscle and back pains, sometimes from the comfort of their own home.

"If I have back pain, I'll take medicine, but I'm fortunate enough to not have terrible back pain as others might," Ferris nursing junior Sydnee Jager said.

Dr. Peter VanDeMark, M.D., at Birkam Health Center recommends application of heat to the area, mild pain medication such as Tylenol and staying active.

"It is the most common reason for adult doctor visits in the United States," VanDeMark said. "In most cases, low back pain will resolve on its own in four to six weeks."



Dr. Peter VanDeMark

If back pain persists or a student begins to feel numbness or weakness in legs, fever, severe pain, had a recent fall or injury to the back and are having issues going to the bathroom, they should go to the doctor to seek medical guidance.

Students with medical concerns can visit Birkam 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. or call at 231-591-2614. For emergencies, call 911.

## Five stretches for aches and pains

Prevention.com's "5 Stretches to Ease Your Lower Back Pain" and Bulletproof.com's "5 Best Back Pain Stretches for Immediate Back Pain Relief" established tips to help alleviate back pain.

### Tips before each stretch:

\* Hold each stretch for 10 seconds, preferably for 30 seconds. The longer these positions are held, the higher the pain relief.

\* Don't rush the movements. Use the time to relax.

\* Breathing is key.

### Tips for stretching in general:

\* Stretch when you wake up.

\* Stretch before you go to bed.

### 1. Child's pose

What it does: Stretches lower back muscles

### 2. Cat/camel stretch

What it does: Helps in maintaining mobility of the spine and strengthening back muscles

### 3. Lower-back twist

What it does: Helps stretch lower back and glutes

### 4. Knee-to-chest stretch

What it does: Lengthens contracted low back muscles

### 5. The pelvic tilt

What it does: Helps bring movement to the pelvic area

## Preventing pains

Below is a list of practices students can do to prevent future back or muscle injuries:

- \* **Maintain a healthy lifestyle, diet and weight.**
- \* **Avoid inactivity or bed rest.**
- \* **Stretch before exercise or physical activities.**
- \* **Maintain proper standing posture.**
- \* **Wear proper shoes.**
- \* **Lift with your knees and keep it close to your body; do not twist.**
- \* **Resist smoking, as smoking damages blood flow.**

"Causes of Back Pain and Treatment Options" by Jonathan Cluett, M.D., on [verywellhealth.com](http://verywellhealth.com)



# Cheers for volunteers



Photo submitted by Erica Foote

Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Erica Foote will be spending her spring break volunteering at the Animal Rescue Coalition (ARC).

## It's beyond simple puppy love

**Veronica Mascorro**  
Interim Reporter

What started off as a requirement for the Ferris honors program has now evolved into a love for volunteering.

"I fell in love with it," Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Erica Foote said. "I volunteer because I think that it's important to give back to the community and it's good for your soul. I really like giving back and helping other people. If I ever see anyone else having problems, I always like to help them out, so for me, volunteering is the same way."

Foote picks up weekly shifts on Wednesdays at the Animal Rescue Coalition (ARC) of Mecosta County, located in Big Rapids, and fills in whenever they need an extra hand.

"Volunteering not only benefits me but as well the dogs. The dogs there are amazing. It doesn't feel like work or typical volunteer community service work. I have fun doing it and I enjoy it," Foote said.

Ferris advertising/integrative marketing communications senior

Erin Patten works with Foote at the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) office and first met her two years ago when they worked together as orientation leaders.

"She's a very positive, upbeat and motivated person, and she does a lot of volunteer work, especially with ARC," Patten said. "She loves the animals there, and she'll wake up at 6 a.m. on Saturdays to walk the dogs."

Though it's one of her passions, ARC is not the only place where Foote volunteers. To find other opportunities to help out, she will look on the Volunteer Center website.

"I see something pop up on the volunteering page that looks like something I'd like to do, I'll sign up and go do it. I like to do that about once a month or so," Foote said.

The Volunteer Center is a resource available to all students that provides opportunities to give back to the community while meeting new people.

Ferris Career and Volunteer Center Coordinator Michele Albright met Foote when she was originally

looking for volunteer opportunities.

"I think it is amazing that she has been able to provide service in a way that is meaningful for



Michele Albright

her," Albright said, "Anyone that knows her knows that she loves animals and helping at ARC has been a great fit."

Albright also stresses the importance of volunteering and how useful it can be to any student.

"Volunteering is not hard, does not have to be time consuming and can be fun," Albright said. "Plus, it is greatly needed and appreciated. Many service organizations would not be able to operate without the contribution of caring volunteers."

The CLACS Volunteer Center provides listings of opportunities for students to enrich their lives and education through the services on campus and in the community. The Volunteer Center also provides an opportunity for students to record their co-curricular experiences and receive recognition of their efforts.

For more information on how to volunteer, you can look at news posts on OrgSync, or contact the CLACS office at CLACS@ferris.edu.

## Paying it forward

*What good deeds have you been doing?*

**"Once a week I meet with my friend Lesly to help her study."**

- Ferris dental hygiene sophomore  
Taylor Swix

**"I open doors for people all the time no matter where I am. Whether I'm back at my dorm or here at the University Center, I always open doors for people."**

- Ferris criminal justice freshman  
Ryan Hoeksema

**"I tutor people in math for free and I give my friends rides all the time."**

- Ferris marketing freshman  
Randy Martinez

**"I get a sub every day from Erbert and Gerbert's and then I give it to my boyfriend because otherwise I don't really eat them."**

- Ferris accounting junior  
Serina Jackson

**"My friend's boyfriend broke up with her on Valentine's Day and I surprised her with flowers and chocolates to help cheer her up."**

- Ferris pre-pharmacy sophomore  
Ayanna Williams

**"I took some of my Lambda Chi Alpha brothers out to lunch the other day."**

- Ferris journalism and technical communication junior  
Matthew Miller

## How to learn about volunteer opportunities

### Visit volunteer center website

<http://ferris.orgsync.com/org/volunteercenter>

### Sign up for the Volunteer newsletter

<https://orgsync.com/18804/forms/280611>

### Email the CLACS office

CLACS@ferris.edu

# Media Minute

## The Umbrella Academy



9/10 torches



Promotional Photo

“The Umbrella Academy” has it all: a great soundtrack, an eclectic cast, beautiful cinematography and a dynamic plot.



Briana Hammontree  
Torch Reporter

A Netflix original series, the show was adapted by the comic of the same name created by My Chemical Romance lead singer Gerard Way and artist Gabriel Bá.

The show’s first season focuses on a group of adopted sibling superheroes, the Hargreeves, who reunite after the death of their father. As the audience, we almost immediately realize this family is riddled with drama and dysfunction.

From the beginning, we learn that many of the family members have hung up their masks for a semi-normal life — with the family members keeping their distance from one another for some time.

The Hargreeves siblings comprise actors Ellen Page (“Inception,” “Juno”), Tom Hopper (“Game of Thrones”), David Castaneda, Emmy Raver-Lampman, Robert Sheehan (“Misfits”) and Aidan Gallagher.

Page plays Vanya, the black sheep of the family and “number seven” of the group; Hopper is Luther or “number one,” and reserves himself as the leader of the family; Castaneda is Diego or “number two,” the bad boy; Raver-Lampman

is Allison or “number three,” the celebrity; Sheehan plays Klaus or “number four,” the party-boy; and Gallagher is “number five,” the brains.

Throughout its 10 episodes, we learn more about the Hargreeves and their pasts, including the absent “number six.” Aside from dealing with their family drama and father’s death, the Hargreeves must learn to set aside their differences to stop the impending apocalypse.

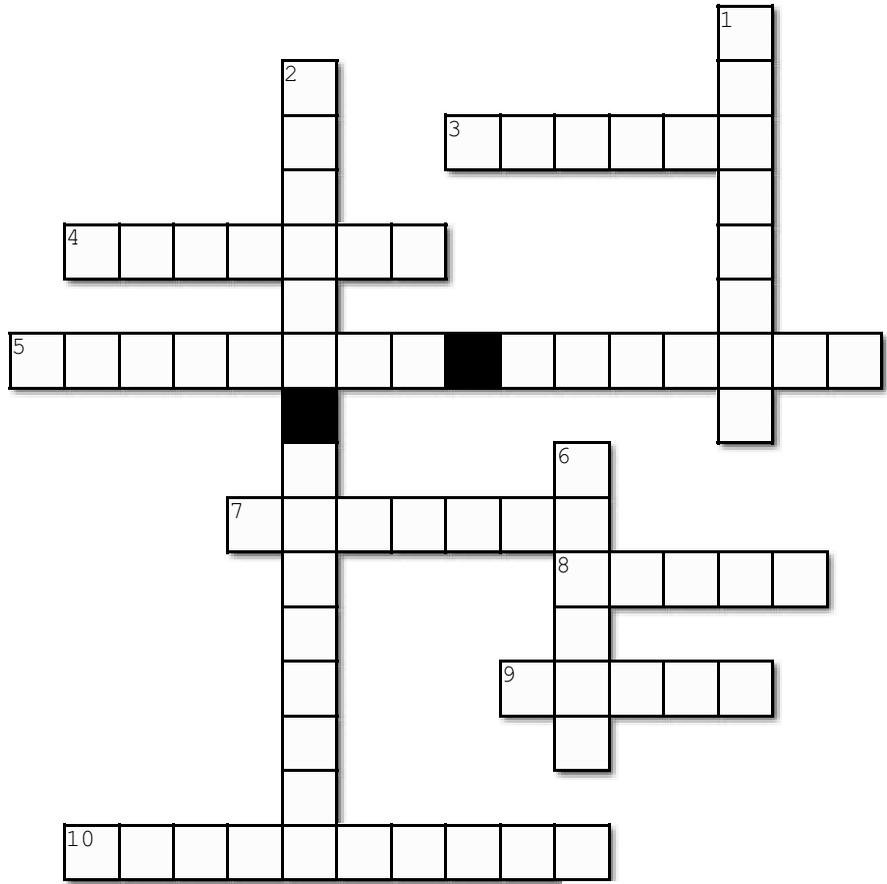
Unlike the fast-paced, action-packed films and television series of the Marvel and DC Universe adaptations of comics, this Netflix original series is unapologetically unique in its quirky factor.

Not all heroes have the moral compass of the Avengers, or feel it’s their duty to protect society like the Justice League, but rather find themselves getting hung up in their own personal issues and acting like everyday people.

The show captures the importance of family and unity, but also reminds us that sometimes being selfish is OK too — even on the brink of the apocalypse.

# Spring Break

Before going on break, answer the questions below and test your spring break knowledge!



**Across**

- 3. Common beachwear attire
- 4. As the snow melts, you hope it doesn't start
- 5. You'll lose an hour of spring break because of this
- 7. Common spring break destination
- 8. Month of spring break
- 9. We hope you'll catch up on this during break
- 10. Something you'd find in Florida but not Michigan

**Down**

- 1. Common spring break activity
- 2. You may spend your break doing another spring activity
- 6. If you aren't going on break with your friends, you may go visit \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER KEY**  
 Down: 1. Drinking 2. Spring cleaning 6. Family  
 7. Florida 8. March 9. Sleep 10. Alligators  
 Across: 3. Bikini 4. Raining 5. Daylight savings

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Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Ferris product design engineering senior Sirinporn Phakamad relaxes in a hammock.

# The great outdoors

## Plenty of options for the fresh air crowd

**Marissa Russell**  
Interim Reporter

The Ferris Outdoor Club spent Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Student Recreation Centre (Rec) promoting the opening for their new gear rental store.

Located in the Rec, the gear rental store will offer students the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and learn a little more about the Outdoor Club itself.

“Our big rule here is we accept anyone that loves the outdoors,” Ferris mechanical and product design engineering junior and Outdoor Club community service chair Jeffery Maddison said. “Whether you’re into hiking, fishing, camping, backpacking, kayaking, whatever your thing is, it’s welcome here.”

During this event, students played giant Jenga, created their own trail mix, and participated in various drawings and giveaways. There was also a paracord bracelet and keychain making station.

Ferris adventure coordinator Jayna Wekenman oversaw the



Jayna Wekenman

opening and hoped this rental store will make adventure more affordable and encourage students to explore the surrounding area.

This store will also give visitors the opportunity to “test” products by renting them instead of buying them.

Along with planning events, the Outdoor Club manage their own trips and spend time helping their community.

“The big thing is we try to plan a lot of events. We do a lot of hiking, backpacking, camping, stuff like that. We try to do a little bit of community service type stuff,” Maddison said.

The Outdoor Club strives for everything and anything with the outdoors, while at the same time educating their members on sustainable recreation and respectful use of natural resources, according to Maddison.

One group they interact with most is the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA), where they do a lot of volunteer work, collecting macros vertebrates out of rivers and watersheds for MRWA to research. The Outdoor Club helps MRWA in preserving, protecting and restoring the Muskegon River.

While Maddison enjoys spending time with club members, Ferris pre-optometry senior and

Outdoor Club secretary Bethany Riess likes the relaxed environment the club has to offer.

“You just come and relax and do stuff. It’s not like you have to be here for this and that all the time. It’s not overwhelming, it’s just enjoyable,” Riess said.

As well as community service opportunities, the Outdoor Club will plan different types of trips for club members, including spring break trips. In 2018, members went to Kentucky to visit the Mammoth Caves with a researching biology professor. Club members helped with research and were able to enter caves not accessible to the public.

While it’s harder for the group to do things outdoors in the winter, the Outdoor Club still tries to find activities for their members to participate in. The weekend of Saturday, March 2, members went to Fort Custer to rent out a cabin, go ice fishing, hike and make igloos.

“We like to do whatever we can outdoors. The Outdoor Club is for anyone who likes to adventure, regardless of their level of skill or experience. We want to help people learn more ways to enjoy our natural resources in a respectful and sustainable way,” Riess said.

For more information about the club, visit their Orgsync page or go to their meetings 11 a.m. Tuesdays in the Card Wildlife Education Center.

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# SPORTS

“At the end of the day, we’re all playing a game that we love, so that’s always something to stay positive about and not get down about.”  
- Trevor Recktenwald - See page 11 for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

## Wrong side of history



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris hockey head coach Bob Daniels watches over his players' shoulders during the last home series of the season against Alabama-Huntsville, which they split with a 2-0 loss Friday, Feb. 22 and 5-2 win Saturday, Feb. 23.

## A winning tradition

Ferris men's basketball adds another program record

Michael Reedy  
Torch Reporter

Another year, another record with over 20 games in the win column for Ferris.

Thursday, Feb. 21, the Bulldogs beat Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) opponent University of Purdue Northwest, which was the Bulldogs' 20th win on the season. This win may have been overlooked, as it was just another Thursday away game that the Bulldogs came up on the winning side. However, that 20th win marks the fifth straight season that the Bulldogs' men basketball team achieved 20 or more wins in a season, which is a program record.

“I just think we had a lot of great players and a lot of great coaches,” Ferris basketball head coach Andy Bronkema said. “Any time you have a record like that, it is just a testament to the players that you have had and the coaches that you had on your staff, and hopefully we can keep rolling.”

The Bulldogs have been under Bronkema as their head coach for the past six seasons. During his first season as head coach in the 2013-14 season, they posted a record of 10-16, which was the worst season the Bulldogs had since the 2007-08 season. After his subpar inaugural season, Bronkema's mentality made the program completely turnaround and be in the winning position that they are still in. Since going 10-16, Bronkema's teams have posted an overall record 133-36 throughout the past five seasons.

“He is a crazy intense guy, in a good way,” Ferris junior wing Greg Williams said. “He loves his job, you can tell he is super

passionate. He is almost a little obsessed about it, which you kind of have to be to be a good coach. He is obsessed about doing the right thing and being a good coach and his philosophy is kind of like, wins are good but it is about being good young men, pretty much, building us to be good husbands and be good fathers.”

Bronkema said after he became the head coach, he did not change that much. He kept the momentum going and was fortunate to have really good players and coaches in his program.

Along with Bronkema, there are two players on the roster that have been a part of the team for the past five winning seasons: Ferris senior post Andrew Meacham and Ferris senior wing Markese Mayfield. Not only did these two play a key role in the road to the 2018 national championship, but were also important to accomplishing the winning records.

“It is a great feeling, it is an amazing feeling,” Meacham said. “Me and Markese have been here for all five years and going from redshirts, going from scout team to part of the rotation and helping the team out wherever it can be. It is just a great feeling to be a part of that.”

The Bulldogs, who are 20-11 as they head into the first round of the GLIAC tournament, will look to run the table as a fourth seed to try and become tournament champions for the fifth straight year. The Bulldogs still hold onto the record for consecutive tournament championships.

The Bulldogs are set to face the Northern Michigan University Wildcats in the GLIAC quarterfinals 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, in Wink Arena.

## Ferris hockey misses conference playoffs for first time

Michael Reedy  
Torch Reporter

For the first time in program history, the Ferris hockey team will not compete in the conference postseason.

The Bulldogs, who finished with an overall record of 10-23-3 and ninth overall with 24 points in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA), will not see the postseason, as a 5-2 loss Friday, March 1 against the Lake Superior State University Lakers sealed the deal. Ferris finished four points behind Alabama-Huntsville, who secured the eighth and final postseason spot.

This is the first time the Bulldogs could not get more than ten wins since the 1978-79 season, where they also went 10-23.

“I thought we could not get our teams synced up with our goaltending at times,” Ferris hockey head coach Bob Daniels said. “Some games I felt the team as a whole did not play well and we got really good goaltending. Other nights I thought the team as a whole played really well, and our goaltending was not up to speed.”

What looked like a promising start to the season, as Ferris started out 4-4, fell once they got into the heart of conference play. After that start to the season, the Bulldogs went on to go 0-10-1, which includes two overtime losses and one shootout loss that would result in a tie. During that stretch, the Bulldogs were outscored 51-27 and lost five weekend series until they split the weekend with the University of Minnesota Dec. 29.

One factor in the Bulldogs' goaltending was that Ferris junior goaltender Justin Kapelmaster was on and off the ice with injuries throughout the season, which forced Ferris freshman goaltender Roni Salmenkangas to fill in a big role that usually takes some time for young goalies to get accustomed to. The Bulldogs ranked last in the WCHA in goals against per game, at 3.42 per game and 123 total goals scored against throughout their 36-game season.

“I felt like we went through a lot of adversity this

year with a couple injuries, the goaltending injuries in general,” Ferris junior defenseman Nate Kallen said. “I felt like when we beat Minnesota after that 11-game skid, it was a big win and we kind of went uphill from there. It is just unfortunate that we had a few key losses, like in Alabama we lost in overtime, it really hurt us. Playoffs did not go the way we wanted to, but I felt like we had ups and downs.”

Ferris went into overtime in eight different games and lost six of those while dropping a seventh in the shootout. On top of their overtime losses, the Bulldogs had a handful of one goal games that they dropped as well.

“I felt like our record did not reflect how we were,” Kallen said. “We just had probably 10 one goal game losses, we just could not finish, but it could go one way or another. I just felt like we played well in a lot of these games where we lost by one goal, we just did not finish.”

Since the season is officially over, it is time for the program to start looking ahead to see what the Bulldogs need to change or improve to be where they want to be when the 2019-20 season starts.

“I think there is some cultural things that we can work on building within the team,” Daniels said. “That can be done through some of our off-ice training and how we approach it. While the culture is not bad, is it a championship culture? It is not yet. We have to work on building that right now and that can take place through things off the ice, and obviously we will review all of our systems, like are we doing the right things on the ice as coaches.”

Kallen said although it is hard to do in the summer, if the team can work on staying together once August rolls around and everyone does their part, they will be very successful next season.

The Bulldogs finished their season with a win. Although there were no implications on the line and they were already out of contention, Daniels said that it is up there for one of his most memorable wins, with the leadership from the seniors, along with Ferris senior forward Corey Mackin tallying his 100th career point and went on to tack one more.



Nate Kallen



Bob Daniels

### 2014-15

OVERALL: 23-9  
SEASON RESULTS: GLIAC tournament champions, lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

### 2015-16

OVERALL: 24-10  
SEASON RESULTS: GLIAC tournament champions, lost in NCAA regional championship

### 2016-17

OVERALL: 28-5  
SEASON RESULTS: GLIAC

tournament champions, lost in NCAA regional semifinal

### 2017-18

OVERALL: 38-1  
SEASON RESULTS: GLIAC tournament champions, Division II National Champions

### 2018-19

(Through regular season)  
OVERALL: 20-11  
SEASON RESULTS: TBD



# Top Dawg

Shaniya Huggins

Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Noah Poser  
Torch Reporter

The Top Dawg honors for this week belong to Shaniya Huggins, a sophomore guard on the Ferris women's basketball team.

Huggins had a breakout game against Lake Superior State University (LSSU) Thursday, Feb. 28. Her performance helped pave the way for a 68-59 victory by the Bulldogs. The win pushed the team's record to 14-12 and 11-9 in conference play.

While Huggins wasn't all that pleased with her defensive performance, she was much happier about her game on offense.

"Individually, I think I made some shots were important for our team down the stretch," Huggins said. "I got out in transition, which is something our team loves to do because it is very hard to guard. But, there is always room for improvement."

Huggins was the catalyst on offense for the Bulldogs in this one, as she had 18 points on 8-15 shooting. She also made one of her two three-point attempts and helped in setting up her teammates, as she dished out five assists.

On defense, Huggins was pretty active, despite her saying that she "should have

stepped up more" on that side of the floor. She collected six rebounds, all of which came on the defensive glass, and also added in a steal.

For some perspective, Huggins has played in 22 games this season and is averaging 9.7 points per game, along with 5.3 assists per game. Huggins also averages 3.4 rebounds and 1.7 steals in 29.7 minutes per game.

The 18 points scored by Huggins now sit as her fourth-highest scoring output on the season, while the six rebounds match her second-best total of the season.

The win extended the team's winning streak to three games and allowed them to complete a two-game sweep of LSSU in the regular season.

Huggins was also selected as the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) North Division Player of the Week for the second time during the 2018-19 season.

The Bulldogs have the fifth seed in the GLIAC tournament and will take on fourth-seeded Northern Michigan University in the opening round. The game will be played 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, in the Berry Events Center.

# Leaders on and off the ice

## Hockey seniors some of the best leaders program has seen

Cora Hall  
Sports Editor

Through the highest of highs and the lowest of lows, the six seniors of the Ferris hockey team have grown into leaders of the program over the last four years.

According to Ferris hockey head coach Bob Daniels, the group has been one of the best displays of leadership he's seen during a season that left them all wanting more.



Bob Daniels

"We've had a hard year — we haven't had a year like this in a long time, maybe never. So it's a really tough deal and yet, through it, that class has kept things together," Daniels said. "We've never stopped working in practice."

Among the seniors, who are all graduating this spring, are four forwards: Jacob Hetz, Trevor Recktenwald, Craig Pefley and captain Corey Mackin. The other two seniors are defensemen: Zac Tierney and alternate captain Ryker Killins.

"They control the locker room," Daniels said. "So, I'm thankful to them for a lot of things, but I think this might have been one of the better leadership jobs I've ever seen because it's not fun losing and losing at the pace we are. It's not fun but they're keeping it together."



Trevor Recktenwald

The group was in their freshman year when Ferris won the Western Collegiate Hockey Association playoffs, the first time in program history the team had brought home the trophy. They went on to the NCAA West Regional Final where they lost to Denver, but the postseason run is a favorite memory for Recktenwald, Killins and Mackin.

"It was really cool to be able to win that in Grand Rapids

and be able to bring the trophy back here to Big Rapids and share it with the community," Recktenwald said.

After freshman year, the team seemed to be on a downward spiral the next three years, posting a losing record each season. Challenges were faced by the team and by individuals, including major injuries for Mackin that led to two surgeries the summer before his junior year, and minor injuries for Killins that kept him benched for nearly half of his senior season.



Ryker Killins

For Killins, it was one of the hardest trials he overcame in his career. After suffering from a concussion that kept him out of play for a short time, Killins sustained a high ankle sprain during the first period of his first game back this season, according to Daniels.

"Probably my ankle injury this year, especially it being my senior year, missing the amount of time I did — that was probably one of the toughest things I've had to do," Killins said.

Daniels said Killins' dedication to his recovery was encouraging to the rest of the team, even though he didn't travel and was somewhat detached from the team at times.

"He was always encouraging, though," Daniels said. "But I think one of the things we all appreciated was how hard he worked at coming back. He would come in twice a day for treatments on that ankle and I think there was a leadership quality there of how hard he worked to get back and he got back from a high ankle sprain as quick as you can. Probably earlier than we thought he would, we thought he might even miss the whole year. So to see that kind of desire kind of play out, that's leadership by example at that point."

The most vocal leader on the team is Mackin, according to Daniels. It's one of the qualities that earned him the position of captain this year.

"It helps when your captains are vocal and it helps when they're really good players," Daniels said. "But you know I

appreciate when they're vocal, but not to the point where it's overbearing. If Corey were to say something to a player like, 'Hey, your practice habits need to improve,' it would really hit home because he's not the kind to say something like that unless it was really called for."

Mackin said when it got tough this season, he knew he had to stay positive and keep up the energy throughout the team.



Corey Mackin

"We knew we were playing pretty good hockey, just pucks weren't bouncing our way. So, we just needed to try our best to keep positive energy on the bench, through practice, in the workout room and just keep the positive energy going and keep bringing it day in and day out," Mackin said.

In his final game as a Bulldog, Mackin reached a career milestone that put him in rare company. He not only reached 100 career points, but he went above and scored two goals to get 101 career points in the 3-2 win Saturday, March 2, against Lake Superior State University. Mackin's second goal was also his 10th goal of the year and he became one of the few to score 10 or more times in each of his four seasons at Ferris.

According to Daniels, the seniors are very tight-knit and will be lifelong friends as he sees it. The group of seniors also carries greater than a 3.5 GPA individually, and their dedication to academics exceeded his expectations.

"I guess one thing I have been pleasantly surprised by is the quality of students they all are. I think sometimes, too, that's a cultural thing that when certain guys, academics is really important to them and they study a lot. It kind of pulls everybody along and I think that helps," Daniels said. "I think that class as a group has a culture of really achieving in the classroom, and I think that that's helped permeate in

Seniors | see page 12

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**Seniors**

Continued from page 11

our younger kids, too. They learn from the older guys.”

Killins and Recktenwald agreed that getting a degree was one of their most important goals and it’s the reason they’re at Ferris.

“I think we have a very high work ethic and a very high standard that we all hold each other accountable to and you can see it on the ice.

We’re working really hard in practice, in games, and it translates over into the classroom as well,” Recktenwald said.

Despite finishing the season with one of the worst records the team has seen and being left out of the playoffs for the first time in program history, Recktenwald and Killins voiced their gratitude for the opportunity to play college hockey.

“At the end of the day, we’re all playing a game that we love, so that’s always something to stay positive about and not get down about,” Recktenwald said.

# Sports Shorts

**Michael Reedy**  
Torch Reporter

**Ferris football announces spring game**

Every year, the Ferris football team holds the annual Crimson & Gold spring football game, which showcases the program and makes use of the majority of the team to get a feel for what is ahead in the fall. The annual spring game is set for noon April 27 on Top Taggart Field.

This game is used to plan for the fall and give players the opportunity to shine and fight for a starting spot for the following season. It is also a way for the coaches to see what kind of schemes work for different offenses and defenses, as well as try some new plays to try and catch their opponents off guard in the fall.

Fans are encouraged to attend the game.

**Baroja earns GLIAC Player of the Week**

Pablo Munoz Baroja, a junior on the Ferris men’s tennis team, earned Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Week honors Wednesday, Feb. 27. Baroja went 2-0 in singles and gave the Bulldogs their only victory against the University of Indianapolis (Indiana) Greyhounds Friday, Feb. 22. Baroja also won 6-3, 6-3 in singles and 6-4 in doubles to give Ferris the 6-1 victory over the Tiffin University (Ohio) Dragons.

**Cody Stilwell to Div. II National Indoor Track Championship**

Ferris senior thrower Cody Stilwell, a member of the Ferris men’s indoor track and field team, was chosen to compete in the NCAA Division II National Indoor Championships. Stilwell, among 18 other throwers across the country, is set to compete Friday, March 8, and Saturday, March 9, in Pittsburg, Kansas, at the Robert W. Plaster Center.

Stilwell holds the 11th best throw overall at 19.81 meters headed into the national championships. The stage is not new for Stilwell, as he was chosen last year to compete in the weight throw, where he finished 11th overall with a throw of 19.27 meters.

**Anderson GLIAC Player of the Week for a second time**

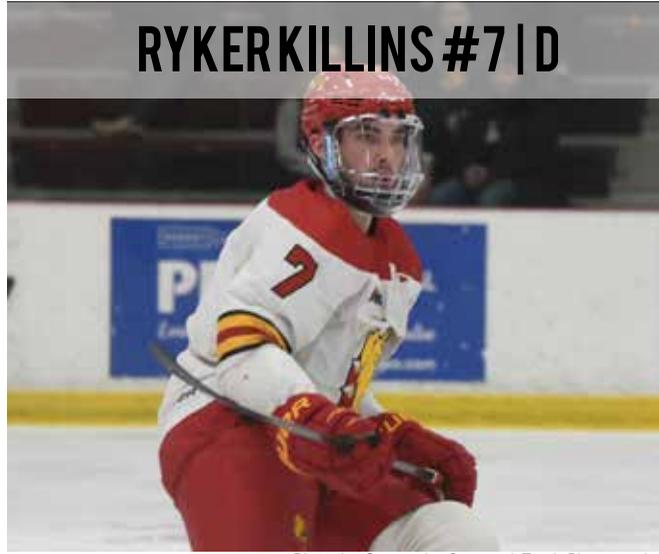
Ferris sophomore guard Adrienne Anderson took home the women’s basketball Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Player of the Week honors for the second time this season. Her performances the week before earned her the award with a total of 30 points, 10 assists, eight rebounds, seven steals and two blocks in the team’s two victories. Anderson also scored the game-winning shot against University of Wisconsin-Parkside Saturday, Feb. 23, to keep the Bulldogs in fifth place in the GLIAC heading into the post-season.



**COREY MACKIN #21 | F**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

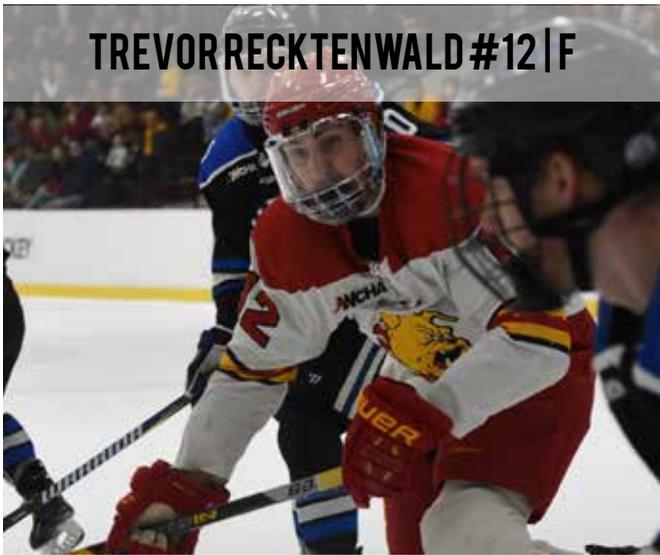
**Major: Business administration, marketing sales minor**  
**Hometown: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**  
**GP: 149**  
**Points: 101**  
**Goals: 43**  
**Assists: 58**  
**Game winning goals (GWG): 7**



**RYKER KILLINS #7 | D**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

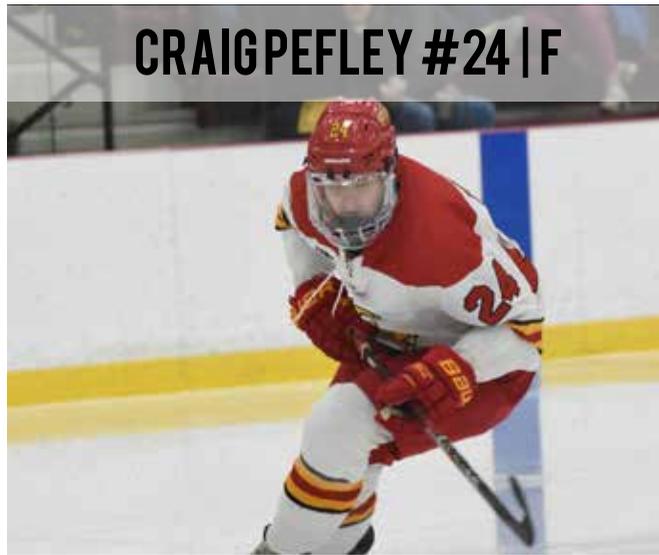
**Major: Marketing**  
**Hometown: Wawa, Ontario, Canada**  
**GP: 102**  
**Points: 435**  
**Goals: 12**  
**Assists: 23**  
**GWG: 2**



**TREVOR RECKTENWALD #12 | F**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

**Major: Business data analytics, computer information systems minor**  
**Hometown: Venetia, Pennsylvania**  
**GP: 115**  
**Points: 27**  
**Goals: 11**  
**Assists: 16**  
**GWG: 1**



**CRAIG PEFLEY #24 | F**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

**Major: Finance, economics minor**  
**Hometown: St. Clair, Michigan**  
**GP: 78**  
**Points: 41**  
**Goals: 13**  
**Assists: 28**  
**GWG: 2**



**ZAC TIERNEY #27 | D**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

**Major: Finance, economics minor**  
**Hometown: London, Ontario, Canada**  
**GP: 85**  
**Points: 17**  
**Goals: 4**  
**Assists: 13**  
**GWG: 1**



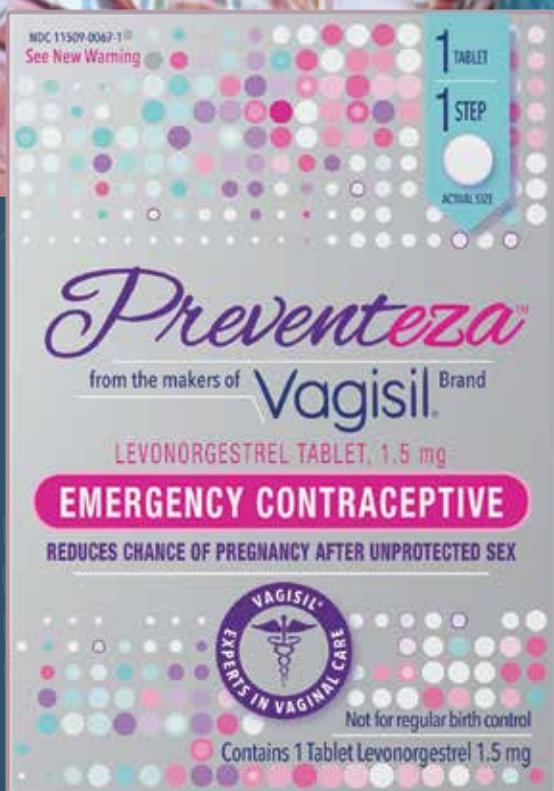
**JACOB HETZ #28 | F**

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

**Major: Computer information systems**  
**Hometown: Glenshaw, Pennsylvania**  
**GP: 107**  
**Points: 21**  
**Goals: 9**  
**Assists: 12**  
**GWG: 2**



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# OPINIONS

“Now that more and more people are recognizing that teachers are vital in all communities, their salaries are only going to go up.”

- Sydney Stevens - See page 15 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

You remember me, right? I curse at you pretty much every morning while I pray for dear life as I walk to class. I'm hoping you're familiar with me; after all, I am talking about you all the time.

I'm in a bind here, Mother Nature. It is the first week of March and the end to the winter weather is not in sight. Sure, there's still a couple weeks left of winter, so I really shouldn't complain.

But, just because I shouldn't doesn't mean I won't.

I will be frank, Mother Nature: these weather patterns are driving me mad. I miss the days when I could walk outside, feel the mild air and not meticulously stare at my feet, watching my every step as I navigate the icy walkways. I miss the days when I could go

without wearing gloves and my fingers wouldn't be red and numb. I miss the days when I'd never have to worry about cancelling plans due to the feet of snow coating the roads, causing car accidents and traffic jams.

As an optimistic person, I made the mistake of believing the storms you caused in January would be the worst of it. And that's probably true: they were the worst of it. However, the rest hasn't been so great.

The Feb. 24 storm was the one that put me over the edge. How can it be snowing AGAIN? All it does is snow. We don't even have room for it all!

One day in the distant future, I'll have kids and they'll ask me why there is still snow on the ground in July. I'll have to tell them that the

## Dear Mother Nature

ridiculously-high snow piles still haven't melted from the winter of 2019, where the winter storms barely stopped and everything was bad.

It's not that I'm not grateful. I always praise you where praise is due. I frequently express my gratitude for beautiful autumn mornings, hot and sunny summer days — perfect for spending in the pool — and rainstorms that make you want to curl up and be cozy. I compliment your weather patterns when they are nice, and there's a lot that fall into this category.

But lately, it appears you've forgotten how to do anything other than create these massive flurries and ice storms (and it's never just a dusting of snow. You believe in "Go big or go home," and you almost always go big). And quite

honestly, I can't take it anymore.

I thought complaining to you would be the best solution, but clearly that isn't working, so I'm asking you for mercy. Please, for me and every other Michigander, spare us. Put an end to this mess, at least for now. I can't afford a tropical vacation and I'd like my home state to be at least tolerable until I can.

Mother Nature, hear us out. This weather is depressing, dangerous and far overdone. We've received enough snow this winter to last us a lifetime, but I'm just asking that you make it last for the season.

Please protect the sanity of everyone affected by this. If I see another person stuck in the snowy road or slipping on a patch of ice, I might just lose my mind.

# DIVIDED OPINIONS

## VACAY

During the spring semester, many students start to feel beat down and have no energy. This is when the countdown to spring break starts.

Spring break is a great time to be with friends or family. It's a time for students to get out of college and away from their home to take a relaxing break. It's always nice to get away from the brutal Michigan winter and spend a week bathing in the sun.

Even though I am not much of an outdoor fanatic, I love to sit beside a pool and read a good book. I feel like I have more energy, and don't want to pull my hair out from the stress of college and keeping my grades up.

Adventuring out somewhere new and different has always been a passion of mine, too. Living in the same city all my life has made it hard to go see something new, but during spring break I could almost visit a different world. Going somewhere new allows you the chance to try new foods, interact with a variety of cultures and meet unique people.

Spring break is also a time to get wild when in college. Most spring breakers go with their friends instead of family, so they have more freedom. Students are free to do almost whatever they want and not have to worry

## What's the best way to spend spring break?



Marissa Russell  
Interim Reporter

about parents, RAs or any other authority figure, other than the police.

Going on spring break can be therapeutic in a way. It helps students release stress they've had all semester and blow off some steam. Some students also feel more depressed during winter months because of the winter blues. Going somewhere warmer where they can get Vitamin D can improve their outlook on school and help them finish the semester strong.

Money is very tight during the college years, so many students can't afford a road trip to the beach; however, working a few extra hours during the summer or not going out to eat as much can help save money to go on vacation. Making plans early on and budgeting can help make your spring break dream come true.

People say college years are their best years and going on spring break is one way to make memories. Nobody remembers the nights they stayed at home and watched Hulu.

Nine out of ten times, plans fall through; that's an official statistic that I just read.

Well, OK, it actually isn't. I might just be a bit salty that my spring break plans fell through, but, if anything, it has made me realize that making plans for spring break is pretty unnecessary.

In all reality, who actually has time for spring break plans with the amount of work we receive? Having a break is really nice, but I know that I would be stressed out the whole trip if I had work that I needed to do, which I do.

I have assignments from all sorts of classes. I have papers I need to write, as well as articles for the Torch and for my journalism classes. And as much as I'd like to say that I'd finish my assignments before spring break, I know that it's most likely not going to happen, because let's be honest: who does that? I'm sure I'll make an attempt on my assignments, but in all reality, I might just wait until the last day to do it, just like everyone else.

Plus, who needs to go to sunny Florida when you could stay in the comfort of your own bed, binge watch your favor-

## STAYCAY



Veronica Mascorro  
Interim Reporter

ite shows and pig out on junk food? And if you're a person who loves to be with their family, like me, you can spend your whole break with them. Personally, I can't wait to see my little sister and spend time with her.

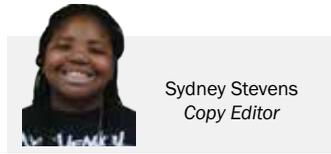
We haven't even talked about the cost yet. Going on vacation is crazy expensive. You have to pay for a method to get to your destination, and on top of that, you need money for food and a place to stay, and additionally extra spending money. Do your bank account a favor and try to not leave it remaining at \$0.50.

And let's be honest, you probably shouldn't be spending your tax return on plane tickets or hotel rooms. You should probably be saving it up for all the books and access codes you'll have to buy next semester.

Now, I am in no way trying to be a Debby Downer; I'm just trying to be realistic and the voice of reason that you just might need to hear. We're all broke college kids who probably shouldn't be spending the little money that we have.

# Put some respect on a teacher's name

## For all their hard work, they deserve it



As an undecided sophomore, I have been contemplating what I want to study.

I always told myself that I want a respectable career of which my parents would be proud. The list that popped up in my mind never included "teacher" until I realized that I was really good at helping people with math. I then began to think about why I never considered teaching respectable. I couldn't come up with any of my own reasons, but I did recall all of the negativity thrown at teachers from the media. More specifically, the phrase, "Those who can't do, teach," comes to mind.

The negativity that is geared toward the teaching profes-

sion is not only wrong, but it can make people who want to be teachers feel like they're not enough. This was a personal struggle with me because I love children, math and helping others, but the only thing that harbored all three of my interests was something a lot of adults I respected spoke down on. It wasn't until a conversation with my godmother that I finally realized I wanted to be a math teacher and that anybody who speaks poorly of the teaching profession is a dunce. The negative feelings toward teaching are primarily inspired by the low salary of teachers and the behavior of the students.

While a teacher's salary might leave something to be desired, it has slowly been increasing over the years. According to MLive, the salary for Michigan teachers averaged \$62,260 in the 2016-17 school year. This may not

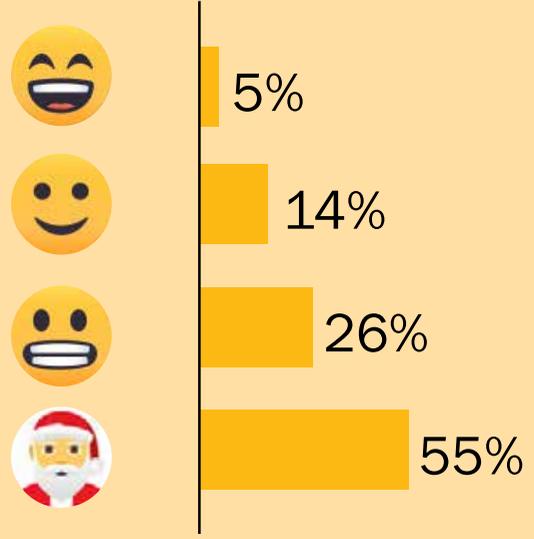
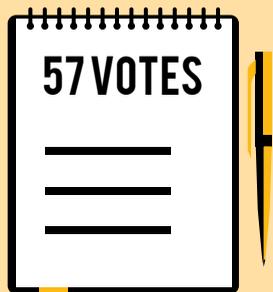
seem like a huge amount of money when you compare it to the salary of a neurologist, but when you stop and think realistically about the type of life the average person lives, it is decent. Also, now that more and more people are recognizing that teachers are vital in all communities, their salaries are only going to go up.

I don't know how many times I have heard somebody say they couldn't be a teacher because the kids in this generation have no home training. And they are absolutely right. They couldn't be a teacher because they have that mindset. The new generation always seems awful to the older generations, so that cannot and should not be used as an excuse. Also, there is a thing called classroom control. You can't blame anyone but yourself if you can't gain control of your classroom.

I really think that people should stop trashing teachers because with all of the challenges that are thrown at them, a person who is not shaping the minds of the next generation shouldn't be one.

## TORCH POLL RESULTS

What is the Torch question of the week?



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Cartoon submitted by Samuel McNeill

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