



Ferris State University
TORCH
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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

DINERS, DRIVE-INS AND DIETERLE

Ferris football junior kicker Jackson Dieterle is pursuing his passion for cooking by selling to-go boxes full of homemade meals.

SPORTS | PAGE 10

DUN-FORGETTABLE

Ferris plastic engineering senior Logan Dunsmore found his place on the stage of Williams Auditorium after opening for the past two Ferris homecoming comedians.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 15

The people's president



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

The new Student Government President Allyson Faulkner shakes hands with former Student Government President Bobby Gill at Faulkner's inauguration Tuesday, April 9.

New student government president elected for 2019-20 school year

Madison Kettlewell
 Torch Reporter

Ferris political science sophomore Allyson Faulkner has been elected as the student government president for the 2019-20 school year.

Faulkner, who previously served as the student government vice president for the 2018-19 school year, remains passionate about student activism, and is excited to step into the role and speak for the students.



Allyson
Faulkner

"I really like Ferris and I figured this was the perfect way to get involved at the highest level that I could to be able to make the most positive change on Ferris' campus," Faulkner said.

To qualify for student government president, a candidate must collect 200 signatures from at least five different academic colleges and submit a letter of intent to the Student Government Director of Internal Assessment. In addition, they need a

minimum grade point average of 2.5, with 14 weeks of active membership. Once a candidate has this submitted, they are officially on the ballot.

The student government usually holds a debate between presidential candidates. This year, Faulkner ran unopposed, so instead she gave a speech covering what she planned to do during her presidency.



Adam
Michalski

"I want to be able to make real change through administration, through what the students actually want to hear and have students realize that they have a voice," Faulkner said. "Whatever people want to see, I'm just the one that's helping them know that they have that voice to be able to change something."

Students were able to vote through the Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services (CLACS) office or through the student government homepage on OrgSync. Voting for student government president was open for one week.

Ferris pre-dentistry sophomore and Student Government

Director of Internal Assessment Adam Michalski said 62 students voted for student government president this year.

"I mainly think that's a little bit lower because of the fact it's one candidate," Michalski said. "She's a very good candidate. She's very well-rounded. She is very involved and I think she had a good scope of what she wants to do."

Ferris accounting and finance sophomore and former student government president Bobby Gill said he hopes Faulkner will continue to grow student government's presence on campus and increase student involvement.

"I've known Ally for a very long time, and I chose her as my vice president for a reason," Gill said. "Ally is incredibly smart, she's driven and motivated. She knows what she's doing, and when she has a plan in mind, she executes it almost perfectly. I'm just really excited to be sitting alongside with her and helping her accomplish all of this."

Faulkner was officially inaugurated Tuesday, April 9.



Bobby
Gill

Got news? Let us know.

Email: fsutorcheditor@gmail.com
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NEWS

"It helps our students, and helps others to have food and other basic items — a win-win situation from our perspective." - Bruce Borkovich - See page 5 for story

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

Getting cultured

International Festival of Cultures provides worldly cuisines, knowledge, music and more



Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Ferris architecture junior Guilherme Sudbrack served authentic Brazilian cuisine at the International Festival of Cultures Sunday, April 14, in the University Center.

Jordan McElroy
Interim Reporter

Students and community members were able to travel the world and experience different cultures without having to leave Big Rapids.

Ferris hosted its 31st annual International Festival of Cultures Sunday, April 14, in the University Center. The event featured food samples from 25 different countries, musical entertainment, displays, information on various countries, games and activities.

"It gives students from these countries an opportunity to share and celebrate their cultures. It also gives the campus and surrounding community an opportunity to have the world come to them for an afternoon," Ferris Office of International Education Assistant Director Lisa vonReichbauer said. "They can meet students from different countries, taste food from different cultures, experience a variety of entertainment from around the world and enjoy an afternoon of festivities."

The event was sponsored by the Office of the President and was coordinated by the Office of International Education and international students.

"I think it's an opportunity to get some impressions of other cultures, and just to taste some nice food," Ferris business administration junior Mirko Smit said.

Ferris business administration junior Jan Henrick Janssen thinks the event helped students learn about different countries and cultures.

"I think the culture festival is a pretty good opportunity to get people around Ferris more context to people around the world, and this is a valuable opportunity for everyone who arrives here and get to know people," Janssen said.

Numerous Ferris students were walking from one table to another, interacting with one another, and smiling as they served food to those in attendance.

"It's a good opportunity for students to come together outside of the classroom and really get to know a lot of people around here," Ferris mechanical engineering technology junior David Perez said.



Jan Henrick Janssen



David Perez



Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Lisa Oldham displayed photos and artwork created by her mother, Alicia Patch Oldham, at the Ferris International Festival of Cultures. Following Alicia's death in December 2018, her children continue to show their mother's drawings and poetry at various art galleries and events.

Work of local artist on display even after death

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

Many artists aim for fame during their lifetime.

However, for Alicia Patch Oldham, her fame is growing even after her death.

Alicia is an artist who lived in Chippewa Lake from 1986 until her death in December 2018 at the age of 91. She was a drawer and a poet throughout her life, but she focused more on poetry in her final years.

Alicia's youngest daughter, Lisa Oldham, said she and her family are working to keep Alicia's artwork and poetry on display. She is optimistic that her mother's work will increase in popularity, even after her death.

"I even told her, I said, 'Mama, I think someday you're going to be famous for your poetry,'" Lisa said. "I said, 'I just want you to know now, because some people become famous after they pass and they never know. I just want to tell you now that I think you're gonna be famous for your poetry someday.'"

According to Lisa, Alicia's passion for poetry began when she was 5 years old and was

asked to memorize a poem for a school play. Since then, she created art and written poetry for her own personal enjoyment. However, Alicia put her dreams of being an artist on hold to raise nine children and did not pick it back up until much later in life.

At 80 years old, Alicia chose to pursue art once more when she was featured in her first art exhibit. Since then, her work has been displayed in various exhibits, such as Artworks in Big Rapids and some galleries in Grand Rapids.

About four years prior to her death, Alicia suffered a stroke. Afterwards, she stopped drawing and chose to focus primarily on her poetry. As she grew older, rather than having Alicia recite her poetry in person, her family decided to submit videos of her reading her poetry to ArtPrize, a Grand Rapids event in which her drawings and poetry were featured nine times. A professional videographer made the videos for the event for Alicia's final three years. Not only did making the video poems allow her to continue participating in ArtPrize as her health worsened, but it preserved her art and memory

Oldham | see page 4

- ON THE RECORD -

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

'Tis but a flesh wound

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Stealin' wheels

April 4, 1:58 p.m., a student's bicycle was stolen from outside the Rock Cafe, and her friend saw someone riding it at Northland Flats Apartments. An officer made contact with the man seen riding it and got the bike back. The student did not want to press charges.

Are you in good hands?

April 5, 10:10 a.m., a subject was stopped leaving one of Ferris' parking lots for a traffic violation. The officers discovered the subject did not have insurance with him in the vehicle and the subject did not think he had insurance. The officers found he had not had insurance for over a year. The subject was given a citation for no insurance and had to park the car until he got insurance.

Don't do drugs, kids

April 5, 11:16 p.m., a student took LSD, and was hallucinating and acting distraught. The police were called, the student was transported to hospital and was treated for his conditions. The student went to the Department of Public Safety the following day and informed officers he got the LSD from another student. Officers are currently seeking warrants for both the students and they were both referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Step one: don't leave valuables in car

April 8, 12:13 p.m., one of several cars was broken into in Cardinal Court. A student did not lock his car doors and had a computer, backpack and books taken from his car. Officers are still investigating the case.

Step two: lock your car

April 8, 3:06 p.m., another car from Cardinal Court was broken into because the student did not lock their car. The suspect attempted to use a stolen credit card at Walmart. Officers have identified the subject who broke into the cars but have yet to apprehend the subject.

Step three: nothing gets stolen

April 8, 10:02 p.m., a third car from Cardinal Court was stolen from. This student also did not lock their doors. Officers are still investigating the case.

'Tis but a flesh wound

April 9, 5:47 p.m., a group of friends — a male and multiple females — were punching each other in the arms when the male punched one of the females in the chest instead of the arm. The female reported it and the male said the female had punched him in the face the other week, but the female wanted to press charges. The case was sent it to the prosecutor's office.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 448 tickets from April 7 to 20 totaling \$7,185.

NEWS BRIEFS

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

Second Chance Prom

You may be in college, but it's not too late to go to prom. Head to the Second Chance Prom 8 p.m. Friday, April 26, in UCB 203. The theme is masquerade, but there is no dress code, so attendees can come in casual or formal attire. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$10 at the door, and can be purchased in the LGBT+ Resource Center located in the CLACS Office. For more information, contact Emily Perry at perrye4@ferris.edu.

Walk-a-Thon for Special Olympics

Help raise money for the Special Olympics during a Walk-a-Thon 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at Top Taggart Field. The Walk-a-Thon will begin after the Spring Football Game. The event is co-sponsored by Sports Communication, the Sports Careers registered student organization and the Special Olympics College Club, and is free and open to the public. To pledge to walk or make a donation, contact Jared Ozella at ozellaj@ferris.edu.

Drive-In Movie

Enjoy a night of old-fashioned movie watching Saturday, April 27, in Lot 4 near Brophy Hall. "Bohemian Rhapsody" will play at 9 p.m. and "Escape Room" will play at 11:30 p.m. Free food, drinks and candy will be available. For more information, contact the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services at CLACS@ferris.edu.

Torch Corrections

- 1.) In "Top Dawg" in the April 10 of the *Torch*, the photo does not display Abby Highway.
- 2.) In "Nostalgic night" in the April 3 edition of the *Torch*, only one co-coordinator of Music Takes Action was mentioned. Ally Bala and Taylor Funari both coordinated the event.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

Lisbon, Portugal

A tour bus containing German tourists crashed, killing 29 people and injuring 28 others. The bus, which was carrying 55 passengers, was traveling the Portuguese island of Madeira when it veered off the road near the capital, Funchal, and rolled down a steep hill, hitting at least one house in the process. Preliminary reports indicate that all the dead were German, but the head of the Funchal hospital said the victims had not all been identified, and the nationalities of the dead have not been confirmed. It is unclear whether any non-passengers, such as pedestrians, were killed or injured as a result of the crash.

Original article by the Associated Press, April 17, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Three professional mountain climbers are missing and presumed dead following an avalanche in a national park in Alberta, Canada. Among the three climbers are American climber Jess Roskelley and Austrian climbers David Lama and Hansjorg Auer. The men were climbing Howse Peak in

Banff National Park when they failed to return from their climb. The government agency responsible for the park, Parks Canada, sent aircraft to look for them. The agency discovered traces of multiple avalanches in the area where the three had been climbing. In addition, climbing equipment was found among the debris in the avalanche.

Original story by Ian Austen, April 18, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Queensland, Australia

A man rescued his 14-month-old son after the child was attacked by a untamed dingo. The dingo dragged the child away from a van around midnight, and the man woke up to the child's cries before taking action. The father had to fight off several other dingoes other than the one that grabbed his son. The child was taken to a hospital by helicopter and is recovering from surgery for a fractured skull and several puncture wounds. This is the third dingo attack this year on Fraser Island, a tourist destination where dingoes are protected by law.

Original article by Daniel Victor, April 19, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Oldham

Continued from page 3

for her loved ones.

Much of Alicia's art focused on different cultures, particularly relating to her Irish heritage. Lisa said her mother also wrote poetry about Native American culture.

"Strangers have been known to cry when hearing particular poems and stories. I've seen people cry listening to her reading her poetry or even on a tape of her reading her poetry. I feel like that connection is universal, even if you don't have an Irish ancestor or that sort of thing. You still can relate to it in some way, even though it's a personal family story," Lisa said.

One of Alicia's most well-known poems is about her grandmother coming to America from Ireland following the Potato Famine. In her poem, Alicia questions if she would have come to be had it not

been for her grandmother's bravery. This poem was displayed at the International Festival of Cultures Sunday, April 14, in the University Center.

Alicia's artistic abilities extend beyond herself. Many of her nine children, 16 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren enjoy art today. In fact, according to Lisa, the family has collaborated on different projects together, where each family member contributed to a large overall project. For instance, Lisa's nature photography was displayed in tandem with her mother's poetry.

Two of Alicia's children, Randy Oldham and Ronnie Woods, attended Ferris. Woods attended Ferris from 1968 to 1971 and was active in the Ferris theatre program.

Although her life has ended, Lisa hopes her mother's art and poetry will live on.

"That's sort of my mission, to get her poetry out there," Lisa said.

Ferris State University Scholarship Opportunity for Students

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship

Applicant must be the child, sibling, grandchild, son or daughter of a Ferris alumna(us), have a 2.75 GPA and successfully completed a minimum of 24 earned credit hours at Ferris State University.

Please note the following: Students seeking an associate degree must have completed 24 credit hours at the end of spring semester and students seeking a bachelor's degree must have completed 56 credit hours at the end of spring semester. In addition, students must submit an application including an essay describing their personal career goals and role an FSU degree will play in achieving those goals, a letter from the FSU alumna(us) describing the effect their FSU career had on their professional career, and a recommendation by an FSU staff or faculty member.

For more information and to apply visit: ferris.academicworks.com



Alumni Association

**Application deadline:
MAY 13, 2019**

*All submissions must be made on line using MyScholarships. Visit <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/admission/financialaid/scholarship/Incoming/myscholarships.htm> for more information.

Inside Smith's preliminary exam

Witnesses take the stand in sexual assault case against former Ferris hockey player

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

The courtroom was filled by 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, for the preliminary examination of former Ferris hockey player Darren Smith.

The examination found that there was probable cause to move forward with a trial, where Smith will face five felonies for criminal sexual conduct. Two counts are for criminal sexual conduct in the first degree for sexual penetration of an incapacitated victim; two counts are for criminal sexual conduct in the first degree for sexual penetration by force or coercion; and the last count is for criminal sexual conduct in the second degree for sexual touching by force or coercion.

The courtroom was incredibly tense, but once Hon. Peter Jaklevic declared that the court was in session, the room fell dead quiet for the next three hours. Among the packed room were several of Smith's former teammates, who would have been in his graduating class.

While Smith himself did not take the stand during the examination, the prosecution called four witnesses to the stand who the defense was also allowed to question. The victim and her roommate — whose names will be kept anonymous in the interest of protecting their privacy — both testified their firsthand accounts of the night in question.

Smith's attorney, Gary Springstead, cross-examined the victim the longest out of all four witnesses. When he asked the victim if it was possible she consented to what happened with Smith and just didn't remember, she answered with a single syllable:

"No."

The questioning and cross-examinations included graphic details of the alleged assault.

When Ferris Department of Public Safety Captain Gary Green took the stand, he said Smith told him in his interview that he engaged in sexual acts with the victim but said the encounter was consensual, and the victim performed oral sex on him. The victim said she did not remember having oral sex with Smith in her questioning. She also reported in her hospital

exam that she did not perform oral sex because she did not remember doing so, and assumed she was not in a state to perform such actions.

Spectrum Health Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Jessica DeRuiter, who performed the victim's hospital exam, was also called as a witness. DeRuiter found multiple bruises all over the victim's body as well as a lower lip injury during the visual part of her examination when the victim went to Spectrum Health a few days after the alleged assault. In her examination, DeRuiter said she found internal and external vaginal injuries to the victim. She said the internal injury was caused by intercourse and it could have been caused by consensual sex.

At the time of her hospital examination, the victim declined to release her alleged assailant's name and did not release her results to law enforcement. The victim said she was unsure at the time if she wanted to take that path.

Alcohol was involved throughout the night of the alleged assault. The victim and her friends first saw Smith at Star Shooters with some of his teammates. According to Green, Smith said in his interview that he and the victim made out at the bar, but the victim said she has no recollection of anything besides a conversation with Smith.

In the victim's initial police report, she said she did not remember anything after taking tequila shots at the bar and the next thing she remembered was waking up naked in her bed next to Smith. During her testimony in the preliminary exam, however, she said a couple months later, she began to remember moments during the alleged assault.

Mecosta County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Amy Clapp said in her final argument that this hearing was to determine if there was probable cause, which is a very low standard, and was not beyond reasonable doubt. Jaklevic decided that the evidence was sufficient to go to trial, which will be held in Circuit Court. A pre-trial hearing has not been set as of the time of publication.

Clapp said a plea deal is unlikely at this point and she fully intends for the case to go to trial.

Donations for days

Second annual One Day for Dawgs event raises \$87,679

Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

In a one-day virtual event, the second annual One Day For Dawgs online event raised \$87,679 to benefit 225 different fundraisers Wednesday, April 10.

"In short, it's a one-day coming together of the virtual community in support of Ferris State University, through social media, driving traffic to our giving platform," Ferris Senior Director for Advancement Jonathan Yordy said.

It was a successful endeavor, especially when compared to the first One Day for Dawgs, which raised \$37,000 from 400 different donors last year.

This year's goal was set high with a 1,000 donors challenge, and it was almost reached with a total of 901 donors.

The money raised was donated to a variety of sources including athletics, Greek life and academic programs.

Proposed projects ranged from adding new weightlifting equipment and a nutrition station to the Rec Centre, to providing new programs for the LGBTQ+ Resource Center.

Because it is directed toward a variety of fundraisers, the day of giving directly impacts all students at Ferris. Additionally, much of the gifting was in support of student scholarships.

"They should be interested in it because it benefits their efforts," Yordy said. "We raised money for food and security, we raised money for the LGBTQ+ Resource Center, we raised money for the

Veterans Resource Center. We raised money for Greek life, men's basketball, the hockey team."

While many students recognize the benefit of donations to the university, some also question why tuition revenue does not have a larger impact.

"I think some people might think it's a little off-putting that they're asking people to give them money. Like, we pay our tuition, so why don't you use money from that to make things better?" Ferris manufacturing senior Lucas Wilkins said.

However, with enrollment down, Yordy said tuition revenues are also down, and finding new ways to raise money for the university has become increasingly important.

"We have to look for other ways to support the university, and that's why the work we do in fundraising is very important," Yordy said.

Ultimately, the event was able to showcase the impact social media can have on people to inspire change.

"It's been a really powerful experience because people came to us wanting to raise money for their programs and organizations, and they did. They came together in a very powerful way and that shows us the power of people," Yordy said.



Lucas Wilkins

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Photo courtesy of Cassie Deising

A group of social work students have been working with the Ferris Department of Public Safety to continue the Food for Fines program, where students can pay their parking tickets with non-perishable food items.

Cans for a cause

Food for Fines will return in Fall 2019

Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

What began as a group assignment for a social work class has now transformed into a lasting community-wide initiative.

Many students are familiar with the Food for Fines program that took place during the first week of February, which allowed campuswide parking tickets cited in January to be paid using non-perishable food items.

The program began as a class assignment where students were asked to think of ways to make Ferris a better place. After handing out surveys, it was discovered that hunger is an issue that needed to be addressed locally.



Cassie Deising

Ferris social work juniors Cassie Deising and Sarah Sanocki were two members of the group who created Food for Fines. Following the program's success, they have planned to expand the initiative to include hygiene products and occur again during the fall of 2019.

"Even though our class has ended — the project has ended — this is still going to go on," Deising said.

Food for Fines' second round will begin Nov. 4 and end Nov. 9. During this week, food donations may void parking tickets issued between Oct. 14 and Oct. 31.

Students can donate five canned food items to pay off a \$10 parking ticket and 10 canned food items to pay off a \$20 parking ticket. The donations will benefit

Project Starburst.

"We're giving back to our community, and I think students would really like to not pay \$20 for a parking ticket. I think they would appreciate just giving canned goods to other students who need it," Deising said.

A second drive will begin Feb. 3, 2020, and conclude Feb. 8, 2020. Students will be able to pay parking tickets received during the entire month of January using hygiene products, which will be donated to Wesley House.



Sarah Sanocki

Sanocki said Ferris Department of Public Safety (DPS) Chief Bruce Borkovich was helpful with the program's initial trial run and encouraged the group to expand the program into future semesters.

"We just wanted to give him recognition for helping us out, kind of like a big 'thank you' to him," Sanocki said. "It's just a huge help that he's willing to continue it for years to come and that it can be sustainable."

Borkovich said partnering with the social work students has been a great opportunity to connect with Ferris students and help others.

"I find the current generation of students to really care for others and be very concerned for others," Borkovich said. "We will be expanding the program to run twice a year. It helps our students, and helps others to have food and other basic items — a win-win situation from our perspective."

Top of the scoreboard

Ferris' Digital Animation and Game Design program ranked top 20

Dan Deitsch
Torch Reporter

The Princeton Review ranked Ferris' Digital Animation and Game Design program among the top 20 university game design programs in 2019.

Ferris' program has been in the yearly ranking consecutively since 2014, with the program placing 16th in 2018 and 17th in 2019. The Princeton Review sends a questionnaire to game design programs at universities around the U.S. and the world, which contain questions regarding a program's curriculum, internships, faculty and awards received by the program's students.

In addition to DAGD's recent ranking by the Princeton Review, Epic Games featured a Ferris student developed game called RAD in its Student Reel at the Games Developer Conference in San Francisco. Ferris DAGD students used Epic's Unreal Engine to create RAD, which was ranked in the Epic Games' Top 5.

Ferris DAGD Associate Professor Martin Lier created the DAGD program in 2002, with classes formally beginning in the Fall 2003 semester. The program serves about 300

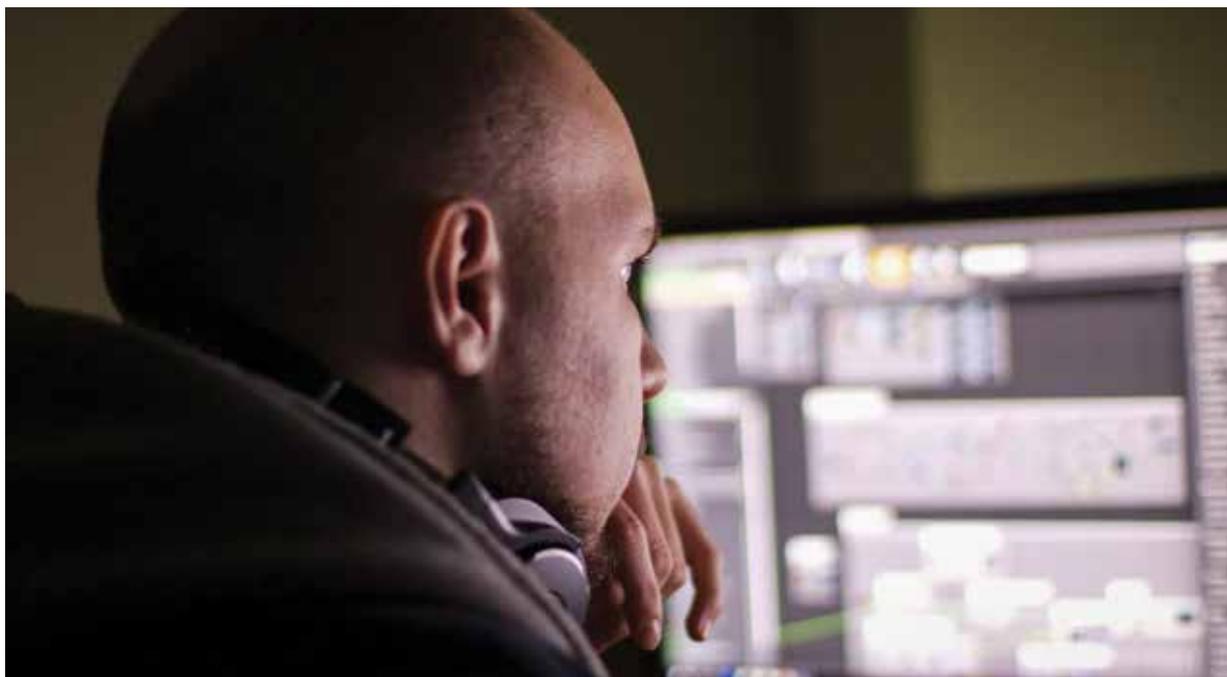


Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

The Digital Animation and Game Design program at Ferris was ranked 17th in the nation in 2019 by the Princeton Review.

Ferris students each semester and instructs them in 3D computer animated design, computer programming, video game modifications, website design and product design. The program's small class sizes allow the program to stand out among other university programs.



Martin Lier

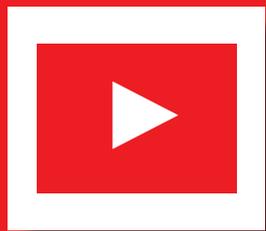
"Our classes are taught by professors with industry contacts and experience," Lier said. "We have 15 years of actual class experience and alumni through the world."

Students in the program have received several other awards recently. Ferris DAGD students Keith

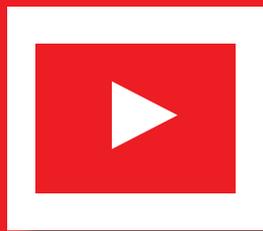
Takens and Ben Waters earned gold medals in the field of 3D Animation and Visualization at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in 2018.

Takens and Waters used Epic Games' Unreal Engine to create a 20-second video showcasing their skills. Takens also presented his mobile phone application — an alternate reality app designed to assist and educate autistic teenagers in social situations within their schools — at the Samsung Developer Conference in 2018.

"Our classes are very project driven," Lier said. "We are constantly striving to create portfolio pieces. We also have a mandatory internship as well as a very demanding Capstone class."



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OPINIONS

“How in the world can that be a proposed idea to encourage enrollment at this university?” - Aaron Willmore - See page 7 for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Megan Lewton

Commuter lots: a crash course

Every weekday, when I wake up, I dread it. I bargain with myself, trying to find a way to get out of it. Without a doubt, it will be one of the worst parts of my day.

No, I'm not talking about going to class.

I'm talking about parking in a commuter lot.

I've lived on campus for all three of my years at Ferris, so in the past, I haven't driven to class. However, I'm currently recovering from a broken leg, so I can't exactly walk to class at the moment. Thus, I've received a pass that allows me to park in commuter lots, which I haven't been able to do previously.

Up until I began driving to class, the only problem with the parking lots I'd considered involves the lack of parking spaces. Yeah, OK, it's a problem, but it's not my problem.

My problem is with how recklessly students drive in commuter lots in pursuit of a spot.

I wish someone would have warned me of this before I had to face it firsthand. Then again, what good would a warning have done? It's a jungle out there, and there's really no way I could have prepared myself for such pandemonium.

On my first day of driving myself to class, I turned left into Lot 37 — the parking lot by the Business Building — naïve and unaware of the mayhem I was about to encounter.

It was like the first few minutes of “The Hunger Games.” It was every man for himself. Cars are driving way too fast, whipping around corners and nearly causing collisions. Drivers are racing each other to claim a recently vacated parking spot. Pedestrians are frantically moving toward a sidewalk to avoid being hit. Horns are honked, middle fingers are flipped. In the distance, sirens.

It appears all manners and awareness of proper driving eti-

quette are thrown out the window once a student turns into a Ferris commuter lot. If I didn't know better, I'd think monkeys were driving the cars. I've seen toddlers operate Barbie Jeeps better.

Listen, I get it. Good, open parking spaces are tough to find, and when you lay your eyes on one, you want to do everything you can to make it yours.

OK, fine, but at what cost? Would you rather risk crashing your vehicle to be 15 feet closer to the building? There are some crazy drivers navigating the Ferris parking lots, and it appears they are more concerned about finding a spot than ensuring their own safety.

It's fine if you're not considerate of yourself or your car. I can't make you care about whether your vehicle gets destroyed.

However, I honestly believe drivers should think twice about driving crazily, considering they are endangering others. All for a

stupid parking spot.

The next time you commute to campus, be a little more considerate of your surroundings. If possible, try leaving a few minutes earlier to have a better chance at getting a spot. When coming around corners, yield and make sure you won't hit another car when you turn.

I've only been driving to my classes for about a month, and I'm exhausted by the situation. I hate being anxious over getting in a car accident in a parking lot or having to constantly slam on my brakes to avoid one. I can only imagine how annoyed the regular commuters must feel.

Guys, it's not that deep. A parking spot is a parking spot. Ferris does not have a very large campus, so it's unlikely you'll have to walk that far to get to class.

Finding good parking is not worth getting into an accident. Stop driving like it is.

OUR LOCATION
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Ferris State University
Big Rapids, MI 49307
fsutorch.com/letter-to-the-editor/

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To all the billionaires I've loved before

An open letter to the wealthy



Veronica Mascorro
Interim Reporter

When I was younger, I used to admire billionaires — especially those who started from the ground up. Now, however, I've become quite disappointed in them.

The Notre Dame Cathedral, which stood in Paris for more than 800 years, burnt down Monday, April 18. Not even 24 hours later, multiple billionaires jumped to the cause and donated millions of dollars to rebuild the cathedral. After two days a total of \$1 billion was raised.

The only thought left on my mind is: where was all of this money when the Flint water crisis first emerged or when the island of Puerto Rico was suffering through the aftermath of the hurricane?

I am in no way trying to diminish the situation that happened in France. Notre Dame is a beautiful building that brings in a lot of tourism that benefits the town and citizens of

Paris, and it should be restored. But the fact that all of these billionaires and corporations raised so much money overnight shows the ethical situation that we are in. People are prioritizing a building over the lives of others. A mere fraction of the funds raised could help so many others who are suffering.

People who are living in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, walk five to 10 miles a day to get water when it costs just \$10,000 to build a well. Flint needed \$55 million to switch out all the pipes that were contaminated with lead, and while Flint has since received the money needed to fix their water system, it is estimated that the project won't be done until 2020 and its citizens are still left without clean water to drink.

I'll be frank: the top 1% should not hold 40% of a country's wealth. No person needs that amount of money to live a happy life.

And I am definitely not the greedy one for thinking that more of these billionaires should be donating more money to causes or be paying their workers more.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, with a net worth of \$163 billion, has committed to donating \$2 billion to various causes yearly. This amount of money only makes up 1.3% of his total net worth. Now it's not Bezos' or any other billionaire's responsibility to pay for tragedies that happen around the world. But when a corporation has made \$232.9 billion in global revenue in the last year and pays zero dollars in taxes, you can't help but wonder how it is fair for said company to be actually receiving a tax refund, when they are in fact using a lot of the resources that we are taxed on.

People can spend their money as they please, but there is an ethical problem in what is happening before our eyes. The wealthy could quickly solve an abundance of the world's problems; yet, they haven't. It's time that actual, living human beings be given the same amount of attention and support that Notre Dame has received, or else my faith in humanity might truly be gone.



Ferris

Not for everyone



Aaron Willmore
Guest Writer

On April 12, 2019 an email was sent to students through the University-Wide Notices asking us to partake in a survey. This survey was intended to field ideas about brand identity and marketing that could be implemented in Fall of 2019. As the email states, there were many involved in the creation of these messages including; a, “national marketing agency 160over90,” as well as, “University representatives from Academic Affairs, Enrollment Services, Extended and International Operations, and the Office of the President.”

Before the survey begins they state that, “it’s important to understand that these are underlying ideas, rather than actual external marketing messages.” Their intended goals are, “improve general reputation and perception of Ferris State University. Address declining enrollment trend with an awareness campaign that helps attract a diverse array of capable students from West Michigan and beyond,” as well as two other goals. It all seemed fine and boring until I actually opened the survey.

Slide three of their survey states their most controversial marketing idea in a slogan that reads, “Ferris is for you, But it’s not for everyone.” I thought to myself, wait, what did I just read? How in the world can that be a proposed idea to encourage enrollment at this university?

Going down the survey to question 11 they state that, “Content proposed as secondary copy states that Ferris is ‘Open to everyone, but not for everyone.’ This message is intended to work against perceptions of Ferris as a ‘safety’ school by communicating that we are distinctly prepared to serve career-focused and highly motivated students.”

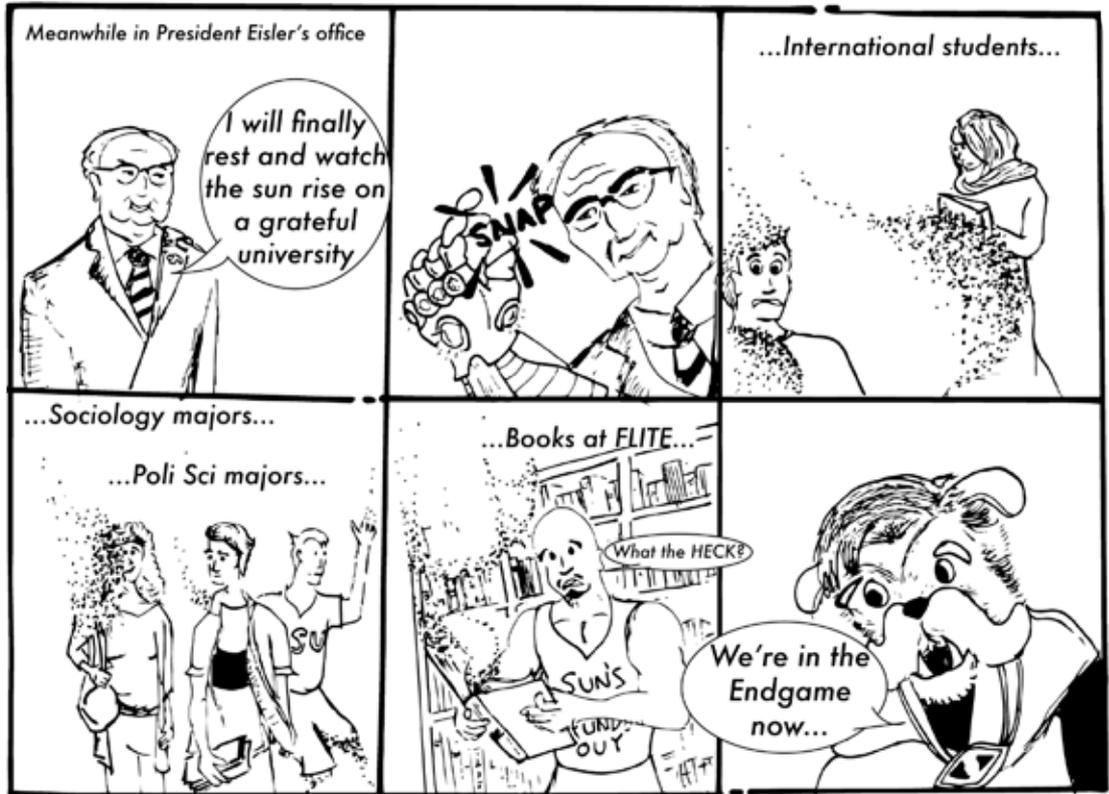
I can understand what they are trying to do, but this looks bad. To me, it conveys the opposite message of encouraging enrollment and reputation. Coming at a time where Ferris is doing anything but save face, through cutting programs to shafting professors on contracts, this statement, “but not for everyone,” has a simple come-back response – Not for me.

I have a difficult time comprehending why it is that the university’s administration comes off as working in the exact opposite direction of encouraging enrollment. The statement in question 11, “perceptions of Ferris as a ‘safety’ school,” makes one question their own choice in picking Ferris. I would like to know, what individual or individuals stated that there is a perception of Ferris as a safety school and why? I don’t see Ferris as that, and I know countless other students who don’t see it as that.

In a few weeks I will be graduating from Ferris. I will not be recommending this university when others ask if they should study here, but it has nothing to do with academics. There is a problem with the administration at this school, the management/leadership of this university, and an inability to focus on the long-term effects beyond the immediate. If one was to deliver a State of Ferris State Address the message would be clear, the school is not okay.

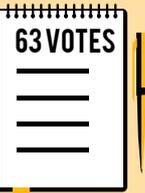
Aaron Willmore is an integrative studies student with a focus on digital media and history. He has attended Ferris since transferring from Central Michigan University in 2016. Willmore wrote this piece in frustration and discontent for the administrative leadership of Ferris State University conflicting with his respect for Ferris as a whole.

“It’s a simple spell but quite unbreakable”

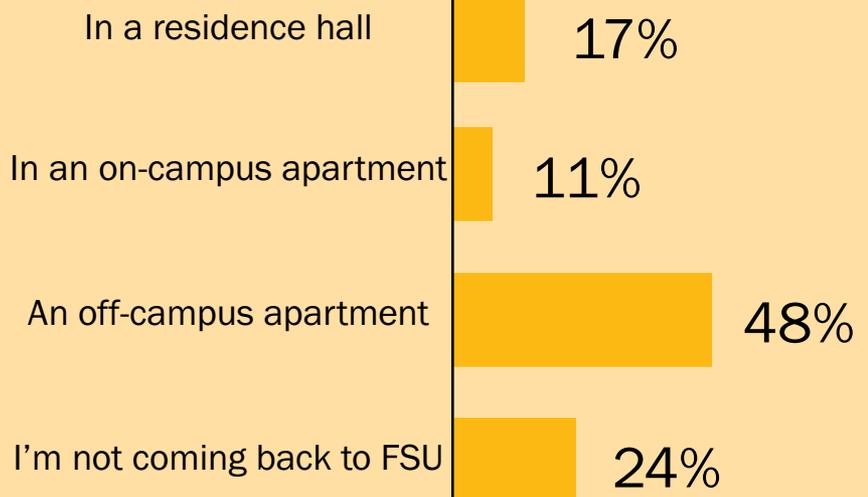


Cartoon by: Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor

TORCH POLL RESULTS



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Ferris State University Tire Fire



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

Students panic in the face of imminent exams. Page 4

Finals approach. Professors cackle. Page 5

Tire Fire editor forgets to write April edition, digs other satire out of the trash and hopes no one notices. Page 7

In wake of 4/20, dozens of students drop out of college to pursue their "dreams." Page 420

After being worn down for months, student concedes and buys a Juul. Page 12

Three students prepare to be the only self-aware living beings in Big Rapids over the summer. Page 14

Two dumb students flirt while drunk, but deny any feelings the next morning. Page 24

Sane student beginning to lose sanity after explaining why they don't watch "Game of Thrones." Page 230

Talk shit and get lit



Professors bribe students with liquor, snacks and making fun of other students to boost office hour attendance

Heath Sandwich
Past His Prime

As April ends and exam week begins, professors are encouraging students to visit their office hours in a fun, persuasive way.

"I've been teaching here for 10 years and not once has a student met me during my office hours, and every semester, there's someone who complains and doesn't understand why they failed my class," Ferris history professor Nick Schmitt said. "So, I thought 'screw it,' and decided to implement some new office policies."

Starting Wednesday, May 1, Schmitt will be hosting "Happy Office Hours" where students can visit during regularly scheduled office hours, Schmitt will pour them a drink and students will have the opportunity to drink their troubles away.

"I really think this will be most beneficial to students anyways," Schmitt said. "I mean, they're probably already getting shit-faced this close to the end of the semester anyways, so, why not get shit-faced with adult supervision? I'm doing Ferris a service, really."

Ferris elementary education senior Ashely Beaker will be first in line to visit Schmitt's new office hours, as she has a lot she needs to get off her chest.

"We are currently doing our final group project and I got stuck with the classmates who really don't give a shit," Beaker said. "At first, I wasn't going to visit Schmitt's office hours because honestly, how often do professors do anything when you ask for help? But now, I mean, free booze."

While Beaker hopes for free booze, Schmitt wanted to clarify that light drinks will be free to students, but the hard stuff will

cost a dollar per shot.

"I figure, if I can make some money for this, why the hell not? It's not like I make much now," Schmitt said.

Schmitt also informed his students that if any of them can out-drink him, he will reward that student with five extra credit points. While other professors are inspired by Schmitt's innovative call to education, Shooters manager Bob Jones sees a chance to giveback.

Jones will be sponsoring Schmitt's new "Happy Office Hours" in hopes of helping the greater good.

"It's all for the kids, really," Jones said.

If anybody would like to voice their concerns, please sit down quietly and say them to yourself.

Legal Disclaimer:

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

Tire Fire Satirical insert laced with absurdity, hyperbole and going way too far
Pull out this section for the hardest-hitting fake news ever put to print

Horror-scopes

THE MOST ACCURATE HOROSCOPE YOU'LL EVER READ

The stars are sick of lying to you. See how they really feel in this Tire Fire exclusive column!



Aquarius: Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Coming up on the end of the semester, you'll be hit with a bunch of worthless shit that'll be worth 80% of your final grade.



Pisces: Feb. 19-March 20

You won't have an exam, but your professor will make you come to your 8 a.m. anyways.



Aries: March 21-April 19

You'll spiral into a self-induced panic as you realize your only final exam is cumulative and you've been bragging about breezing through the class without opening your textbook.



Taurus: April 20-May 20

The one day you decide to wear "spring" clothes is the one day Michigan decides to snow again.



Gemini: May 21-June 20

You'll graduate and find out that "adulting" is more than just purchasing a vegetable.



Cancer: June 21-July 22

Finding love is like finding a good pair of pants. Think about it.



Leo: July 23-Aug. 22

You apply to 80 internships to be accepted to the only one that doesn't pay.



Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You'll hit next-level procrastination as you save all your final research papers until a few days before their due dates.



Libra: Sept. 23-Oct.22

You'll be eating a cheeseburger, remember that swimsuit season is near, remember you're a strong, confident, body positive woman, and order a side of large fries.

Not as negative as you thought it was gonna be, huh?



Scorpio: Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You'll waste hours of your life down a meme-hole, only to emerge a punnier, better version of yourself.



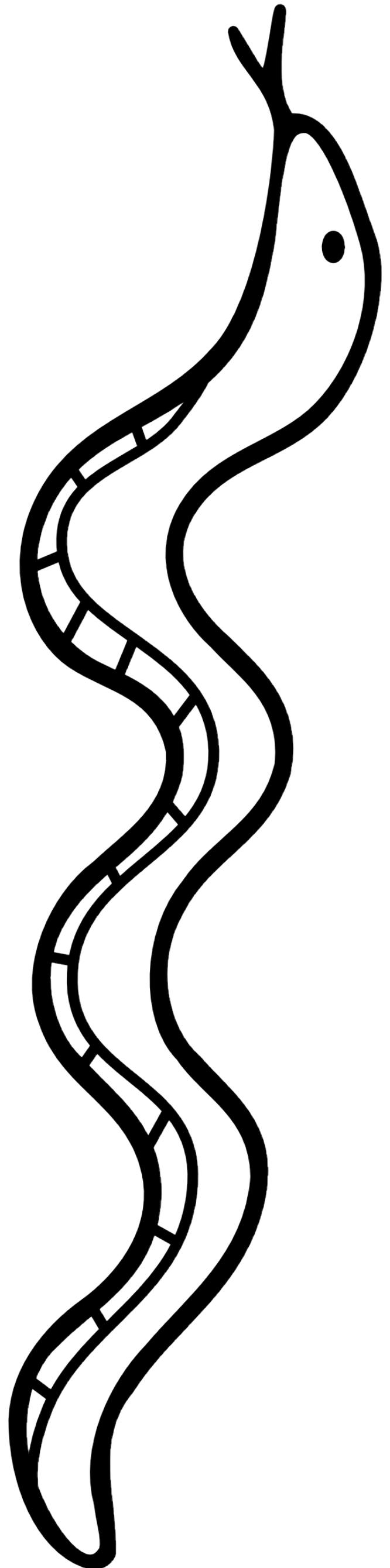
Sagittarius: Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You'll get in a fist fight when someone tries to explain the difference between "who" and "whom" to you.

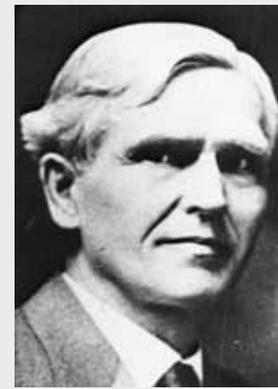


Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan.19

Dude. Call us. The stars don't have enough space here to tell you your future.



Color in this slithery snake and give it to *that* friend



Ask Woodbridge

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

“Is President Eisler actually running for president in the 2020 election?”

-Konfused Kyle

You know kid, I have no clue, but I’m torn on whether or not I want him to. At first, I was thinking “please God, yes, get him out of here,” but then I began to think that maybe it would be worse to have him be a disaster in an even more powerful position. I mean, don’t get me wrong, I’m rolling in my grave for everyone at Ferris and I hope the Board of Trustees get some brain cells back before his contract is supposed to renew, but wouldn’t it be the lesser of two evils to keep him here where he does less damage and only makes the statewide news every other year for being a shitty person? Idk, doesn’t seem like a great idea to put him in charge of our country when he can’t run a shithole like Big Rapids.

- Woodbridge

“Why do professors always schedule exams in the same week as each other? I swear, I have orgo and anatomy and physiology tests the same week every time. I’m DYING over here. Any advice?”

-Phrantic Pre-Pharm Pupil

Alright, first off, I have zero sympathy for you because you chose pre-pharmacy. Also, if you somehow make it through pharmacy school you’ll be richer than I ever was, so screw you. But something that may help is not partying three nights every weekend and actually studying a little bit every day. At the same time, you’re still screwed because all the professors have group chats with other professors in their college and they plan this shit out just to torture you guys. They said something about teaching you that life sucks the hard way? I don’t know, seems pretty fucked up to me but they get paid the big bucks, right? Oh wait...

- Woodbridge

“I heard that SAGC members have to swear not to tell anyone who is in the Brutus costume or they’ll lose their scholarships ... please tell me I’m wrong?”

- SAGC Stalker

I’m not going to confirm or deny this statement. But they do have to swear on their family members’ lives not to reveal the students’ names who wear the Brutus costume. You also have to remember: the Student Alumni Gold Club is literally a club full of all the goody-two-shoes on campus that do Eisler’s bitch work to promote the university. So, if they actually wanted to be in this club and went through an entire application process to get in and went to all that work, you really think they’re gonna tattletale on who is in the Brutus costume? Not a chance. But, it is a cult, so they had to do some sort of dark shit like swearing on the lives of your family members. I would run the other way if I were you, kid.

- Woodbridge

“I saw online that Ferris is going to build a new athletic facility and weight room for the athletes. I’m going to be a freshman in the fall on the track team and I wasn’t sure if it would be done by then. Do you know when it’ll be finished?”

- Running Rebecca

Ignorance is bliss, Becky. It’s never going to get done, I hate to break it to you. I mean, relying on donations to build a facility? In this economy? Sounds like athletics is living in fantasy land to me. We got championship programs, though. Yet our football field is worse than a lot of high schools and all they get is new turf after making it to the national championship? Sounds like our university budget manager needs to start sending funding to athletics for once.

- Woodbridge

The truth is in there

What is the real reason for the email server change?

Bella Goth Neighbor

Everything changed in December 2018. Ferris switched email servers from Google to Microsoft.

Board members stated the switch was due to pricing and availability of Office software.

Is that really the truth though? According to a source that preferred to stay anonymous, Ferris officials sat in a meeting for nine hours trying to decide which email server to use.

Our source claims that after eight hours and 45 minutes, an official, whose name rhymes with Toby,

busted out a Magic 8-ball to help the board with their final decision.

What happened next will shock you. When shaken, the Magic 8-ball relayed a response of “Outlook good.”

That was enough for the easily amused Ferris board; they signed with Microsoft minutes later.

Many students refuse to believe this source, denying that Ferris executives couldn’t possibly be that stupid. However, many students revoked that statement after they realized that Ferris administration really is that stupid.

Brutus’ Bulletin:

Stop trying to call Ferris Fest “Oak Fest.” You just look like a moron.



Eisler Says:

“We put the ‘ass’ in high class.”



In memoriam

They always say it's not alcoholism until you graduate. Well now it's alcoholism

Alicia - Lifetime Movie Writer
1995 - 2019



At 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, Alicia was hit by a bus after encountering her idol.

Self-dubbed "the ultimate Grey's Anatomy fan ever," Alicia ran into "Grey's Anatomy" heart-breaker Shonda Rhimes while leaving campus.

Witnesses saw Alicia pull a stethoscope out of her back pocket and begin flailing uncontrollably screaming "SHONDA" while attempting to cross the road.

Seconds after that, Alicia was struck by a bus.

She was last seen clutching her stethoscope inscribed "Pick me. Choose me. Love me."

"Considering her love for the show, I know this is the way Alicia would've wanted to go," Alicia's parents said.

Rhimes was last seen scribbling some notes down in a planner before fleeing the scene. One can only hope their encounter would end up on Alicia's favorite television drama.

Aside from watching "Grey's Anatomy" on a loop, Alicia enjoyed many other things like stalking "Grey's Anatomy" Facebook forums and playing her "Grey's Anatomy" board game.

To honor Alicia's passing, her family members are requesting that everyone watch "Grey's Anatomy" from start to finish until they can recite every episode by heart.

#GreysforDay.

Briana - Snooze Reporter
1995 - 2019



At 7:01 p.m., April 11, Briana, 23, died after losing to a "What are the odds?" bet that required she wrestle a crocodile that was seen walking the streets of Big Rapids.

A witness says she is last quoted saying, "How hard can it be?" before tackling the crocodile and yelling "I'm winning!" - although it was quite clear she was not.

An avid "Game of Thrones" fan, friends say she will be sorry to miss the opening of the final season of the show and will hold a moment of silence for her during the opening credits.

She leaves behind a half-drunk bottle of vodka, a messy car, a countless number of scarves and a laptop that abruptly shuts down.

During her final words, Briana requested that at her funeral they play the last song she was listening to, "Blinded by the Light" by Manfred Mann's Earth Band.

Briana is survived by family and friends, although it was, ironically enough, her friends who issued the "What are the odds?" bet in the first place.

Those who know her wish to avenge her death, however the crocodile managed to elude capture and remains on the loose.

Rebecca - Grammar Supremacist
1998 - 2019



In an ironic twist of fate, Rebecca died when her red pen ran out of ink.

The former managing grammar supremacist for the Torch was found slumped over one of the desks in the Torch office, the red pen still teetering between her pointer finger and her thumb.

The body was discovered when the production team came in around their usual time at 1 p.m.

Authorities have ruled the death a natural coincidence, after an autopsy was performed on the body and the pen to determine time of death.

"There was a high amount of Dr. Pepper found in the lab results," the local mortician said. When asked to clarify which lab results, the mortician replied, "From the pen and the person. I guess she drank so much Dr. Pepper in her lifetime, it infused itself into the pen."

Found beside the body among Rebecca's belongings was a sheet of paper written with the last of the red pen's ink. The writing was determined to be a parody of Elton John's "Candle in the Wind," and a note at the top stated that it was to commemorate her graduation in December.

Here is what Bostic wrote in her final moments:

"Goodbye Ferris State
FSUS was completely useless
You had no grace about yourself
PLEASE SALT THE FRICKIN' SIDEWALKS
Goodbye Ferris State
From the young girl who just wanted to come home
Who went insane in your solitary confinement rooms -
I mean your dorms

And it seems to me I lived my life
In those solitary confinement rooms
Never knowing what my grades really were
When midterms came again
And I would have liked to believe in you
But I was just a kid
Your BS burned me out long before
20 credit hours ever did
Your BS burned me out long before
20 credit hours ever did"

Dawn of a new draft

All for one and one for ... the Dawgs?

G.I. Tract
Underqualified

High school graduates are still choosing to attend college, but they're not choosing to attend Ferris. This frightening drop in enrollment has prompted the Office of Admissions to raise an alarm. Instead of providing more incentives to prospective students, Ferris will be implementing a draft system to boost enrollment.

On April 20, President Eisler declared a state of Ferris-wide emergency, claiming that the lack of prospective student interest was critically low and needed to be supplemented by a Selective Service System. Male and female students who are to graduate in May of 2019 are the first to be entered into a lottery by birthdate, followed, if needed, by students graduated in 2018, 2017, 2016 and so forth.

Eisler stated in a press conference Feb. 19 that there would be no deferments to women or those with health issues.

"You want equality? Here."

Opponents of the selective service

question Eisler's decision and upon what authority he is acting. Unfortunately, to date, Eisler has made no further comments, nor has he discussed the situation in any more detail. The Office of Admissions is tentatively following orders, as they are unsure of the legality of the new system.

Most of the students we spoke to were adamantly against the new policy. Daxton Gretson, a sixth year automotive management student, was all for the idea, although we're not entirely sure he actually knew what we were talking about.

"Yeah, no, it's a good idea to get people in there, because, you know, we all gotta play our part, as Americans and show our patriotism. It's our duty, you know?"

Aside from Gretson and his run-on sentence, no other students were willing to be interviewed.

No sane faculty members were available for comment, for obvious reasons. We had to draw straws because not a single Tire Fire reporter actually wanted to cover this story.

We're always hiring, since our reporters disappear so often. Send in your resume and a secret famiy recipe to fsutirefire@gmail.com

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

SPORTS

“My absolute favorite part about making food is seeing people’s faces light up when they try something I made.” - Jackson Dieterle - See page 10 for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

Back on the turf

A solid addition

Longtime Division I coach and analyst joins Ferris football

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

Ferris football has landed former Division I coach and analyst Brian Rock as their new assistant coach. With more than 30 years of experience, Rock is already a valuable asset to the coaching staff.

Rock is taking over the position left by former offensive coordinator Steve Casula, who is now an offensive analyst for the University of Michigan. Rock comes to Ferris with an abundance amount of knowledge of the game of football, having held positions at College of the Holy Cross, Kent State University, Purdue University, Western Michigan University, St. Joseph’s College and Oklahoma State most recently. He said he is an offensive guy and is spending a lot of his time with the running backs and tight ends here at Ferris.

Rock spent most of his time coaching in the Midwest because of his family being there, and the desire to get back to this part of the country played a factor in him coming to Ferris. Another factor was the relationship between Rock and Ferris head football coach Tony Annese.

“Being so philosophically in line with Coach Annese as to what our roles are as coaches was a huge piece to the puzzle,” Rock said. “We’ve been friends and known each other for 25 years, and it just felt right.”

Annese believes Rock is someone he has always wanted to work with and anytime there is an opportunity to work with someone who is the best available, you take it. In Annese’s eyes, Rock is someone who develops a good bond with players and staff alike.

“I want to see the players love him and I want to see him love the players, and I’ve already noticed that the guys he coaches, specifically to his position group, really have already developed a good bond with him,” Annese said. “The key to all of our success here in the athletic department is to have great relationships amongst each other.”

After feeling a warm welcome from the program, Rock said that there is a great culture for the team right now, and he wants to embrace that culture and enhance what is already there.

“Coach Rock is a positive influence.. He’s very energetic and generates that to his players,” Ferris senior slot receiver Jevon Shaw said. “He knows what he’s talking about at all aspects of football.”

The coaches and players have respect for Rock and understand all the

Rock | see page 12



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris football began spring practices March 22 in preparation for the Crimson and Golf Spring Game noon Saturday, April 27, at Top Taggart Field.

Spring practice underway with new faces

Noah Poser
Torch Reporter

Spring is nearing its end for a Ferris football team that has unfinished business in the 2019 season.

With the beginning of a new season comes not only new names and new faces but also renewed energy for players returning to the program from last season.

“It’s been so good to be back out there playing and competing,” Ferris senior quarterback Travis Russell said. “It’s been high energy because we’ve been looking forward to the summer.”

Russell has played a lot of reps behind center thus far this spring. It’s something he has relished, given the fact that he can use that experience for the betterment of the team.

“I’ve taken a lot of reps doing this for four years, so I should be playing at a high level,” Russell said. “While doing it, it has given me a great opportunity to help mentor the young guys who will be getting the torch passed on to them when Jayru and I leave.”

As for the whereabouts of Ferris senior starting quarterback Jayru Campbell, he will sit out this spring, recovering from offseason elbow surgery.

Russell isn’t the only player that has had to step up due to injuries. Ferris senior offensive lineman Cory Carr and multiple others have also had to sit out the spring session, opening doors for other names to emerge.

The good news for the injured players is that they are all are expected to be back come summer, according to Ferris head football coach Tony Annese, who returns for his eighth year at the helm of the Ferris football program.

These injuries have led to many standouts that haven’t spent a lot of time in the spotlight in the past. One of those new faces is Ferris sophomore slot receiver Marcus Taylor.

Not only did Taylor receive praise from Russell, who has been one of the guys throwing him the ball this spring, but he also received some recognition from Annese.

Taylor comes off a season with 12 appearances for the Bulldogs. He caught just six passes for 61 yards, but he will be the name to fill the void left by Keyondre Craig, who graduated after being the number two target for Campbell in 2018.

In fact, Taylor is one of many young guys who has the opportunity to show what they’re capable of throughout the spring.

“I want players to grow in their knowledge of our system and grow in their skill level, and so we play a lot of young guys in spring ball, a ton of young guys in spring ball,” Annese said. “That’s our ultimate goal, to be getting young guys going and being successful.”

It seems to have worked, as Anese not only mentioned Taylor as one of the most improved players this spring but a few others as well. He also mentioned Ferris redshirt sophomore defensive back Jovan Bayless, Ferris redshirt sophomore defensive end Ian Hall and Ferris sophomore wide receiver CJ Jefferson as players who have impressed him this spring.

These players, along with the rest of the roster, will have just a few more chances to turn heads this spring with two more practices before the spring game.

The practices culminate with the annual Crimson and Gold Spring Game noon Saturday, April 27, at Top Taggart field.



Travis Russell



Tony Annese

Diners, Drive-Ins and Dieterle

Ferris football kicker shows passion on the field and in the kitchen

Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

What do Bobby Flay, Gordon Ramsay and Ferris football junior kicker Jackson Dieterle all have in common? The fact they all whip in the kitchen.

Dieterle is known for what he can do with his leg, such as when he broke the NCAA Championship Game record with his 52-yard kick Saturday, Dec. 15. This was Dieterle's first season as the starter and his talents do not stop on the field, they also carry over well into the kitchen where his other passion is cooking.

Dieterle's passion is so intense that he started to cook food for people and sell them as "to-go" boxes. Some of the to-go boxes he has prepared so far include Philly cheesesteaks, alfredo wings and macaroni and cheese, which all come with a vegetable. Just recently did Dieterle start promoting his passion for food to the public, with his first to-go box Saturday Thursday, March 28, which generated great interest.



Jackson Dieterle

"I'm in hospitality management with a restaurant industry management focus. My end goal for my career is to have my own restaurant," Dieterle said. "About a month ago, I had the idea of making these to-go boxes for my friends so I could get feedback on my food, and more importantly, just make the people I love a good meal."

Along with gaining feedback toward his meals to better his future career, a big inspiration for Dieterle started right in his home.

"My inspirations for cooking are my parents first and foremost," Dieterle said. "They were always in the kitchen and have been really supportive with me following my dreams, so I do it for them and my family."

Ferris football sophomore wide receiver Brett Pero met Dieterle on the field, but after freshman year, Pero and Dieterle rented an apartment together and are now roommates. Pero critiques Dieterle's food and samples various dishes that Dieterle might consider rolling out in the future.

"When he told me he was going to start doing weekly to-go boxes I thought it was a spectacular idea," Pero said. "Living with him the past two years, I've had the pleasure of sampling a lot of his dishes and I promise you they don't disappoint. He is passionate about what he does in the kitchen. I think the quality of his food proves that."

Pero, who has given Dieterle's food business the name of



Photo submitted by Jackson Dieterle

Ferris junior kicker Jackson Dieterle poses with food he has prepared. Dieterle has a passion for making food and began selling to-go boxes each week filled with anything from wings to Philly cheesesteaks.

"Big Jack's Meat Shack," explained that the average college student will spend \$10 or more on fast food each week. But, if they save that \$10 for a to-go box, they will be getting more bang for their buck and higher quality food, along with helping a Ferris student pursue his dreams. Pero's favorite meal that Dieterle has made is the Philly cheesesteak and he requests it as frequently as he can.

So far, after the three weeks that he has been making the boxes, Dieterle has totaled 55 meals with 15 meals made during his first week and then 20 back-to-back meal weekends, he said. Dieterle spends four to six hours on Saturday just to get everything ready for his customers so the food is hot and ready to go.

It is apparent that Dieterle has a passion for what he does

in the kitchen, but along with his motivation towards his future career, the joy he brings to other people is one of his favorite parts.

"My absolute favorite part about making food is seeing people's faces light up when they try something I made," Dieterle said. "Or hearing, 'this is the best food I've had in a long time.' Anytime you're being praised for something you're super passionate about and love doing, it just drives you to keep improving and keep chasing your dream which is what my friends are doing for me whether they know it or not."

To see Dieterle's to-go boxes or learn more, visit his cooking Instagram @dietzmietz.

Equal play, equal pay | The wage gap continues to be a problem with women athletics

The gap between men's and women's sports is closing each year, but it is apparent that female athletes are still on the back burner.

Through progression and slightly more coverage, you hear more on the television or in the news about women's sports, but the coverage they receive compares nowhere near to men's sports. The common thought that men's teams bring more success is false, especially when it comes to the men's and women's U.S. National Soccer teams.

Just to compare the two teams: the men have been playing in the World Cup, which is an international competition tournament played every four years, since 1930 which was the first official World Cup. The U.S. Men's National Team (USMNT) finished in third place in 1930, which to date is their best finish in any World Cup tournament. The U.S. Women's National Team (USWNT), won first place of its inaugural World Cup tournament in 1991.

As referred to before, the USMNT finished in third place in 1930 and have not medaled



Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

in any World Cup since. In fact, out of the 21 Men's World Cup that have been held, the men's team has only qualified for ten of the tournaments, which is less than half. While on the other side, the USWNT has competed in all seven of the World Cups that have taken place and have won three times, was the runner-up once and placed in third three times. They have medaled in every World Cup.

That is just the World Cup, too, not to mention the Olympics, where the men have played since 1904 and have only medaled twice, while the women have only played since 1996 and placed first all but two times.

With all the success the USWNT has

earned since they first started, one could imagine they are making good money compared to the failure that the USMNT has been. However, according to CBC online, the winner of the 2015 Women's World Cup — which was the USWNT — received just \$2 million USD, while in 2014 the USMNT lost in the round of 16 and still received \$9 million USD.

The statistics speak for themselves when you can see an underwhelming gap in the amount of pay. Winning \$2 million USD is good, but it does not compare to the \$7 million USD gap from a team losing way before the finals.

The USWNT have taken a stand against this issue and are suing U.S. Soccer for gender discrimination. According to the New York Times, 28 players on the USWNT filed a lawsuit March 8. Not only is the lawsuit about money, but it is also about where they play and how often, how they train, what medical treatment and coaching they receive and how they travel to matches.

Being a sports fan, I find it more enjoyable

to watch and support a team that constantly wins and plays in big games, opposed to watching a team barely qualify for tournaments just to lose in the first round and yet still make more money.

Looking at the Ferris women's soccer team, some players play semi-professional over the course of the summer with the dreams of one day playing professionally. The hard work these players would put in to make it professionally compares equally to the work men have to put in. Since there is no Ferris men's soccer team to set side by side and see the work that both teams' players put in, all we have is to see the work the women put in.

For a female collegiate athlete, in this case soccer, it could be discouraging for them to follow their dreams of playing professionally when the outlook and pay is as low as it is, even though they are putting in just as much work as their male counterparts and getting better results.

Learning Center swings against cancer



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

The Ken Janke Sr. Golf Learning Center, located at Katke Golf Course, has four TrackMan golf simulators, three indoor heated hitting bays and an indoor putting green.

Professional golf management hosts Fore Cancer fundraiser

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

Ferris students proved once again that sports are about more than just gameday, this time with the professional golf management program's cancer fundraiser.

The PGM program hosted their Fore Cancer event Thursday, April 11, that raised money for Relay for Life and showed off the new Ken Janke Sr. Learning Center at the same time.

Community members were able to tour the Ken Janke Sr. Learning Center and see all the new perks this facility will offer not only golf programs but also provide families with another opportunity to get out and do something together.

"It helps give the new learning center a spotlight for the community," Ferris PGM sophomore Alyssa Snider said. "People have known about this place being built for years so it's a good way to show it off and help raise awareness for a good cause."

While showing off the new learning center, the PGM program was focused more on raising money for Relay for Life and bringing awareness to cancer.

"I always have had cancer affect my family, and to be able to use golf as a way to fundraise and not allow others to go through that means a lot to me," Ferris PGM freshman Parker LaPointe said. "To get the public involved, show dedication to the program and raise money for cancer awareness all through the golf was the main idea of this event."

"For the amount that we had from donations and walk-ins outside of the business donation that we had, we were very pleased with the amount that was raised as this event was not only last minute but also the first year that we have ever run the event," Ferris PGM junior Brad VanGorder said.

With a \$250 donation from Doyle Vacuum Systems, LLC, the Fore Cancer event raised a total of \$416.93 with about 17 community members coming to see the new center and approximately 10 volunteers working the event.

"The end goal was to get as many people involved to raise money for Relay for Life and bring Cancer Awareness as well to show off the new facility," LaPointe said. "All the public that came in were generally surprised by the fact the facility was so nice and all of the technology that we had in there. Some of them didn't know that there was so much more you can do with the game of golf and the new facility showed them what is possible."

Community members who attended were able to purchase raffle tickets that, beside offering the chance to win prizes, also allowed for a game on one of the golf simulators per purchase.

The new Ken Janke Sr. Learning Center allows golfers to practice year-round to master the game of golf. The new learning center has four TrackMan golf simulators, three heated indoor hitting bays and an indoor putting green. The two-story, \$3.5 million facility is also home to the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.



Brad VanGorder



Alyssa Snider



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Thursday, April 25:

- Track & field at Hillsdale Gina Relays
- Softball at Grand Valley State 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 26:

- Track & field at Hillsdale Gina Relays
- Men's tennis vs. Ashland in GLIAC Tournament 6:45 a.m.

Saturday, April 27:

- Track & field at Hillsdale Gina Relays
- Softball vs. Northwood noon and 2 p.m.
- Men's tennis vs. TBD in GLIAC Tournament 3:45 p.m.

Sunday, April 28:

- Men's tennis vs. TBD in GLIAC Tournament 9 a.m.

CAN'T COME TO A FERRIS SPORTING EVENT?

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Inquiries or complaints of discrimination may be addressed to the Director of Equal Opportunity, 120 East Cedar St., Big Rapids, MI 49307, or by telephone at (231) 591-2152; or Title IX Coordinator, 805 Campus Dr., Big Rapids, MI 49307, or by telephone at (231) 591-2088. On the KCAD Grand Rapids campus, contact the Title IX Deputy Coordinator, 17 Fountain St., Grand Rapids, MI 49503, (616) 451-2787 ext. 1113.

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Sports Shorts

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

Ferris thrower earns athlete of the week honors

Ferris men's track and field senior Cody Stilwell has been named the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference athlete of the week.



Cody Stilwell

Stilwell won the men's hammer throw at the Hillsdale Invitational and Stilwell had a NCAA Division II National Provisional qualifying distance of 60.06 meters. He is ranked fourth in the GLIAC and 15th nationally.

Stilwell has earned All-American honors twice since his time as a collegiate thrower. He was an All-GLIAC honoree in both men's indoor and outdoor track for the 2018 season, and named to the GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team.

For 2019, Stilwell had a season-best throw of 20.25 meters. With this throw, Stilwell became the first Ferris male thrower to earn indoor All-America recognition since 1990. Stilwell is also the first male Bulldog to earn All-American honors in the men's weight throw.

Stilwell finished the season among the top five throwers in six of his competitions, with two first place performances and four top-three efforts. Stilwell led Ferris with a fifth-place finish in the weight throw at the 2019 GLIAC indoor championship.

Ferris hockey alum wins top defenseman

Ferris hockey alum Zach Redmond won the Eddie Shore Award as the American Hockey League's top defenseman of 2019.

Redmond was a former Bulldog that played hockey from 2007 – 2011. After graduation, the Traverse City native made his National Hockey League debut in 2012 when he played eight games for the Jets until a leg injury shortened his season.

Redmond plays for the AHL's Rochester Americans, which is the top affiliate of the NHL's Buffalo Sabres. Redmond claimed the defenseman title for the first time in his career with an impressive season.

This award is voted on by coaches, players and media members in each of the AHL's 31 cities with Redmond being just the third Rochester player to win the award in their franchise long 63 seasons.

Redmond had 21 goals and 50 points scored this season, which are both career highs for him. In the 58 games that Redmond played, his goal total broke a 46-year-old franchise record for a defenseman which was previously held by Rick Pagnutti. Redmond also led all AHL defenders this season as the top dog.

Redmond has won the Amerk's Booster Club's Most Valuable Player and Most Popular Player awards, along with being named on the AHL First-Team All-Star.

As a 2008 seventh-round NHL entry draft pick, which is 184th overall by the Atlanta Thrashers, Redmond has moved throughout the hockey ranks from playing in the NHL and AHL. Redmond is proving that he is a strong and competitive hockey player who was worth more than a seventh-round pick.



Zach Redmond

Top Dawg

Men's Golf



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Top Dawg moves to the green this week with the Ferris men's golf team who won the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament Sunday, April 21.

Five members of the team competed in the tournament that begin with stroke play on Friday, April 19, and Saturday, April 20. Ferris seniors Jack Weller, Andrew Hammett, Seth Terpstra, Ryan Bayer and freshman Thomas Hursey represented the Bulldogs at Bedford Valley Golf Club near Battle Creek. After 36 holes of stroke play, the lowest four of five scores compiled each team's score and the top four teams moved on to medal play on Sunday.

Ferris defeated No. 2 seed Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in the first match of medal play with three wins of the five matchups. Weller, Hammett and Hursey got the wins against GVSU by three, four and five strokes respectively.

"I was very excited to reach medal play after Saturday's round. It was disappointing to not have the No. 1 seed, but we were confident in our coach to give us the best pairings against GVSU and Ashland," Hammett said. "The pairing set perfect for us, and the team played incredible. We were all confident that if we just played our game, we would take care of business. The format of medal play really brings

out the team aspect of the tournament. I've never been more proud of the performance of all the guys, and we plan to keep it up into Arkansas."

The title match against Ashland University was held on a par 72 course and Hammett won his match by the largest lead of seven strokes. Terpstra won by one stroke, Hursey lost by three strokes and Bayer and Weller's matches finished in ties, giving Ferris the championship win. This was the program's 20th GLIAC Championship, according to Ferris Athletics.

Hammett said he likes the new format that was implemented and believes it brings out the best teams in the conference and allows teams to make a late push to earn Regional sports. One of the teams goals this season was to position themselves high in the region, according to Hammett.

"We compete in one of the most competitive regions in the country," Hammett said. "Every year the teams moving through to Nationals are separated by a few shots. Good news is that we are allotted 6 spots out of 20 to advance to the National Championship. All we can do is play our game, be patient and stay present in the moment."

The Bulldogs hope to compete in the NCAA Division II Super Regional Championship May 9 to 11 in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and will find out the official NCAA selection announcement later this week.

Rock

Continued from page 9

knowledge he brings to the team and are already feeling like a cohesive group this spring. Shaw said the players can feel how much Rock cares about the program and players.

"As a man he's very outgoing, very old school, but all around a genuine guy," Shaw said. "He has coached at the highest level of football and you can tell he cares about helping his players compete to their fullest potential."

Not only do the players, staff and

other coaches respect the new assistant coach, Rock has high values of respect for them as well. Rock said he not only cares about making the players ambassadors of football, but also ambassadors of Ferris, and the only way that happens is if there is love between everyone involved.

"I really like the players here, not just because they're talented, but there's some personality and there's some guys who want to be really good," Rock said. "It's not a one-way street. I'm here to serve them but it's awful nice when in return they serve me, and it makes it feel right."

Right now, Rock is trying to just fit

in since he is the new guy, but he understands that this football team has great potential, and with great success comes elevated expectations.

"I just want to be a part of something special and to do that. This isn't about me, this is about this program and it's about this team, and I need to fit in this program and this team," Rock said. "To me, that's what coaches do, is to help young people, and help each other be comfortable in uncomfortable situations and that's how you become successful in life, not just in football games and championships."

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LIFESTYLES

“He told me — and I hate to toot my own horn — he said ‘Hey, you’re a pretty good comedy writer.’” - Logan Dunsmore - See page 15 for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu

You might “ah-choose” to stay inside

Allergy season is back in session

Veronica Mascorro
Interim Reporter

With the abrupt change from winter to spring, allergy season is back, and Ferris actuarial science senior Shar’Rae Davis has begun taking her daily dose of allergy medication.

“My allergies are worse this year,” Davis said. “For me, it’s been really bad. I have to take two tablets a day instead of one like I used to. If I don’t take it, then I’m dying the whole day and my eyes are itching.”

An allergen is typically a harmless substance that can trigger a response that starts in the immune system. Different types of seasonal allergens can vary from pollen to mold. Although there are no cures for allergies, there are ways they can be managed.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) recommends avoiding your known triggers and taking your medications as prescribed.

Ferris computer programming freshman Terrence Foster has had the opposite experience of Davis so far. His allergies have gotten better in comparison to previous years.

“I used to go to a doctor all the time,” Foster said. “I used to have

really bad allergy headaches and sinus problems, so it’s definitely way better.”

Foster recommends students begin taking allergy medicine before the season begins.

“My doctor always tells me to take my medicine early before the season hits so that you’re prepared, and your immune system is already built up,” Foster said. “So, take two Claritins before the season hits, and then you go back down to one.”

Some choose not to take allergy medicine because they don’t believe the symptoms to be serious, but this could result in painful sinus or ear infections. A few over-the-counter medicines that relieve allergy symptoms effectively are nose sprays, decongestants, antihistamines and corticosteroid creams.

Ferris nursing freshman Sayge Cuthrell’s allergies have gotten better thanks to allergy shots and medications, but she still carries around different remedies with her.

“I take Benadryl, I have lots of eyedrops and different lotions. I have sensitive skin, so a lot of my allergies come from that,” Cuthrell said.

If you have allergy problems, you can visit the Birkam Health Center or seek out a certified allergist.

Birkam Health Center

Phone: (231) 591-2614

Email: BirkamHC@ferris.edu

Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Best allergy medicines

- Allegra
- Benadryl
- Claritin
- Zyrtec

Source: mayoclinic.org

Natural remedies

- Apple cider vinegar
- Garlic
- Lemons
- Local raw honey
- Eucalyptus oil
- Neti Pot

Source: draxe.com



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

While students say goodbye to the winter cold, Ferris criminal justice junior Calvin Kobe battles allergies as the flowers arrive.

Honoring the art Celebrating Celtic culture

Veronica Mascorro
Interim Reporter

In honor of Celtic culture, Ferris history junior Abigale Mumby took herself out of musical retirement to play traditional Irish music on her violin.



Abigale Mumby

Inspired by the latest Ferris Art Gallery Exhibit, "Myths, Monsters, and Mystery" by Steve Barber, Ferris history honor society Phi Alpha Theta hosted their own celebration of Celtic history and culture Friday, April 12.

"I really enjoyed hearing the artist speak," Mumby said. "Hearing his process and learning that he listened to music while painting is something similar to what I do and gave me inspiration for when I played the violin today."

Ferris history junior Travis Shears said the organization found "Myths, Monsters, and Mystery" the perfect opportunity to collaborate with the art gallery because of the different Celtic imagery that was included in the paintings.

"St. Patrick's Day was not too long ago," Shears said. "We saw this art show coming up and decided that we wanted to do something Celtic-themed because it sounded like a lot of fun."



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

This event was inspired by the latest Ferris Art Gallery Exhibit, "Myths, Monsters, and Mystery" by Steve Barber.

Other members of Phi Alpha Theta contributed by reading excerpts of different Celtic literary works ranging from folktales to poems. There was also different Celtic imagery for students to color.

Ferris history and English junior Jason Mickevich read from "Finnegan's Wake," a novel that is considered one of the most difficult pieces in the English language.

"When I discovered the book, I was so fascinated by it because it just seemed to make no sense," Mickevich said. "I thought that it was kind of funny, so I figured others would get a laugh out of it as well."

Phi Alpha Theta has done other events like Celtic Day throughout the years. They hold book sales, game nights and movie nights, and are regularly involved in the Black History Month and Women's History Month events on campus.

Ferris history professor and Phi Alpha Theta adviser Dr.

Tracy Busch believes having events like Celtic Day are very important.

"They gave us several hours to pause and consider the way that music, art and poetry influence our understanding of history," Busch said. "History is not just about names and dates, it is also about people who dream, sing and draw."

Phi Alpha Theta has two events coming up Thursday, April 25. They will be having a bake sale in the IRC connector noon - 4 p.m. and a game night in FLITE 214 from 7 - 9 p.m.

There are grade point average requirements to join Phi Alpha Theta, but they are combined with Club History and are open to anyone who is a history major or minor, or who is simply interested in history itself. Phi Alpha Theta meets 7 p.m. Thursdays in FLITE 214. For more information, contact Tracy Busch at tracybusch@ferris.edu.

Upcoming events

Phi Alpha Theta Bake Sale

Date: Thursday, April 25

Time: noon - 4 p.m.

Place: IRC Connector

Phi Alpha Theta Game Night

Date: Thursday, April 25

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.

Place: FLITE 214

Meeting times

Date:

Every Thursday

Time:

7 p.m.

Place:

FLITE 214

A different kind of art

A strange look at the human condition

Marissa Russell
Interim Reporter

The newest exhibit to be featured at Ferris' Fine Art Gallery expresses a different approach than exhibits have in the past.

Artist Steve Barber showcases a new perspective for students through his exhibit "Myths, Monsters, and Mystery." The exhibit is about addressing issues such as greed, honor, trust and other conditions of human experience through images from mythology and folklore.

Ferris gallery director Carrie Weis liked the different style of Barber and wanted to have his pieces featured in the next exhibition. Weis chose Barber to be featured in this exhibit because of the uniqueness of his work and how he is doing something few others have done.

This exhibit is influenced by literary sources, both fiction and nonfiction. Barber says it is based off mythology, including Greek, Nordic, Celtic, Tibetan, Buddhist, Native American, Judeo-Christian and even some pseudoscience: Ancient Aliens.

"My favorite piece is probably the one titled, 'From within and without.' It is a self-portrait of me with the antlers of a stag," Barber said. "This is the appearance of a Celtic deity called Cernunnos. The reason I chose him is because I

have a lot of Celtic ancestry. So I have a fondness for Celtic myths."

Barber hopes people discover a new way of seeing art from his show and hopes to inspire them to feel more alive when they view this exhibit. Barber said his technique and style is unique in that it may show people a different way of seeing the world.

"My work is a visual diary of all that moves me, inspires me, annoys me and makes me laugh," Barber wrote on his website. "Much of my work is very personal but it also can be inspired by literary sources. For me, to create is a celebration of life even if the subject is ominous."

Barber went to Graceland University for his Bachelor of Arts in painting and drawing in 1990, and Central Michigan University (CMU) for his Master of Fine Arts with a concentration in painting and drawing in 1996. Barber was a professor at CMU for 16 years. He has exhibitions in state, regional, national and international shows.

Ferris human resource management senior Kelsey McGovern has worked for the Fine Art Gallery since her freshman year. McGovern said she likes that the pictures have different animals, which makes it more interesting to her. This exhibit stands out more to McGovern than past exhibits because of the bright colors and the uniqueness of it all.

To see Barber's "Myths, Monsters, and Mystery" exhibit, visit the Fine Art Gallery between now and Monday, May 27, in University Center 205.



Kelsey McGovern

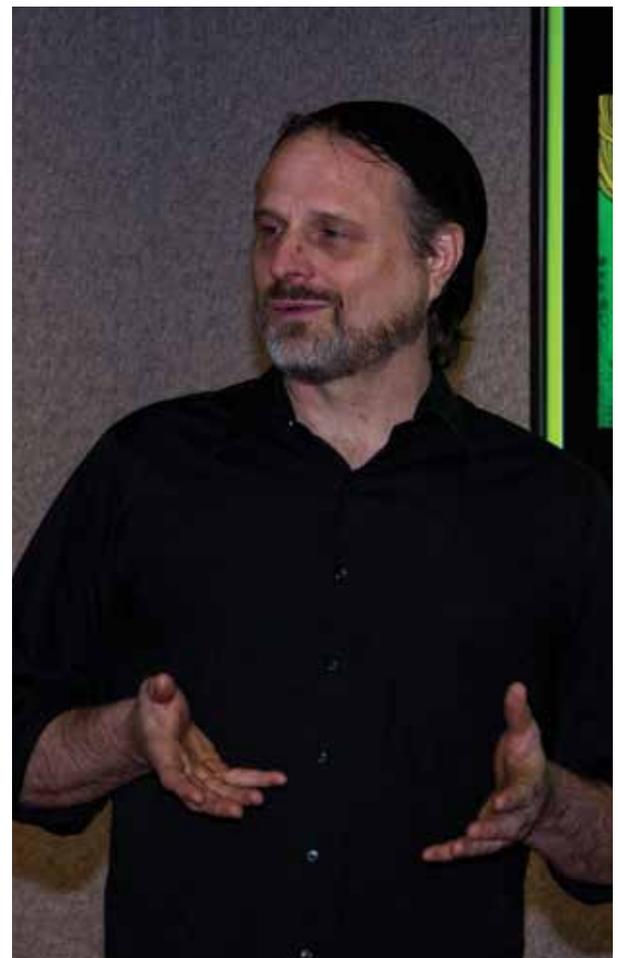


Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Artist Steve Barber discusses his work and its inspiration.

Dun-forgettable

Ferris student finds a funny place onstage

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

As he prepares to graduate, Ferris plastics engineering senior Logan Dunsmore joked that he'd like to use a unique source as a reference on his job applications: famed comedian Nick Offerman.

"He told me — and I hate to toot my own horn — he said, 'Hey, you're a pretty good comedy writer.' And I'm just like, 'That's all I needed. Can you write that down? I'd like to put that on resumes from now on,'" Dunsmore said.

Dunsmore, 22, has a list of experience vastly different from those of his peers. During his time at Ferris, he opened for two Ferris Homecoming Comedians: Offerman of "Parks and Recreation" in 2017 and Dave Coulier of "Full House" in 2018. Dunsmore has gained popularity at Ferris through his presence both onstage and online.

Dunsmore began pursuing comedy after graduating high school in 2015. The Houghton Lake native spent the summer living with his uncle in Columbus, Ohio, where he started performing at open microphone events at a rock and roll dive bar called The Shrunken Head.

During his first set, Dunsmore said he expected things to go well, as he was familiar with making his friends laugh. However, performing in front of strangers is a very different scene.

"When you're out with friends, you have backgrounds. You have, oh, everyone knows that Joe is cheap and Beth wears Crocs. You have those. The pins are already there; you just have to knock them down. When you go and do stand up for the first time, you quickly realize you have to set those pins up yourself, then knock them down," Dunsmore said.

Although he said he only received one laugh throughout his set, Dunsmore continued to attend open mics at various bars in various cities to practice his craft. By September 2017, he was comfortable enough to audition for his biggest gig yet: opening for Ferris Homecoming Comedian Nick Offerman.

During the audition, Dunsmore was competing against other Ferris students for the opportunity to open for the comedian. He said he felt confident that he would land the gig.

"Then they selected me for it, and then it was just endless panic up until the show with Offerman," Dunsmore said.

Dunsmore spent the three weeks leading up to the show preparing his set and practicing at open mics in Grand Rapids and Traverse City. His nervousness even caused him to lose sleep as the performance approached.

However, once he stepped onstage in

front of 1,600 people, his uncertainties disappeared.

"I knew the material, I knew all the beats, I felt prepared. And at that point, I'd almost put it on the energy of the crowd, really just alleviated the fear in the moment," Dunsmore said.

It all came down to the first punchline.

"That's scary when you start. That opening line is very telling, because if that doesn't get a laugh, you're in for a rough time," Dunsmore said. "But it landed really well, and I was just flooded with endorphins. It was truly one of the greatest experiences I've ever had, because I worked really hard on the material. It was certainly a labor of love."

Later in his set, Dunsmore told a joke that received a reaction he'd never before experienced: a sudden round of applause from the audience.

"It is humbling, honestly. Applause breaks are something my heroes get. It's not something I get," Dunsmore said. "But that was a truly incredible experience."

As he headed offstage, feeling accomplished and proud of his set, Dunsmore received recognition from Offerman himself, a moment he wouldn't soon forget.

"Once I got off, just little things like shaking Nick Offerman's hand as he's going on and I'm going off, and he kind of just whispers, 'Hey, that was a good set.' And that's a really tremendous feeling because, you know, he's a professional. He's seen great comics and to receive an iota of praise from — that just filled me with joy," Dunsmore said.

Dunsmore said he felt more valid as a comedian after opening for a prominent celebrity.

"It felt even better because now, there was a much greater degree of legitimacy to me doing standup in that I kind of had a serious credit now," Dunsmore said.

However, Dunsmore's time performing on the Williams Auditorium stage was not quite over. In September 2018, he was chosen once again to open for Dave Coulier, the Ferris Homecoming Comedian of the year.

Despite the success of his prior Ferris show, Dunsmore was ultimately not as happy with his opening performance for Coulier. Much of this lies in a contract he signed that limited him to clean comedy at a PG-13 level.

"The problem was, what they wanted, what that meant was very vague," Dunsmore said. "I'm not a particularly dirty comic. But you know, I swear a lot, and while that seems like a very simple thing and while none of the swear words are critical to my jokes, the problem was I'd always sworn when I'd done the material, and so I developed my timing around that."

Removing the profanity from his punchlines altered the timing on his set, causing Dunsmore to fall out of his rhythm and rush his set.

"I didn't bomb by any means," Dunsmore said. "It certainly wasn't as strong as my Offerman set. It was still something I was proud of."

Even offstage, Dunsmore is well-known at Ferris for his sense of humor. When he's not



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris plastics engineering senior Logan Dunsmore took the stage when he opened for Dave Coulier in September 2018.

performing in front of a crowd, he's cracking jokes on his personal Twitter account.

"I like Twitter just because it's kind of a testing ground for me," Dunsmore said. "What's nice is, it's a very nice way for me to have an idea, immediately put it out there and depending on how well it does, I kind of get a sense for, 'Is that a premise I could possibly explore onstage?'"

At press time, Dunsmore had over 900 Twitter followers. His tweets frequently receive a lot of attention, particularly from fellow Ferris students. However, Dunsmore doesn't do it for the retweets.

"It's really just a good creative outlet, and if I could make someone laugh during their day, that's all I wish for. That's all this really is. If I could make somebody's day a little funnier, that's certainly something I'm happy to do," Dunsmore said.

Dunsmore's comedic ways appear offstage and offline, as well. Dunsmore's roommate, Ferris information security and intelligence senior Ashleigh Allen, said she experiences his sense of humor every day.

"Logan is a great guy who always has a joke on hand. We could be talking about the most random subject and it always ends with us bantering back and forth. I'm always laughing after a conversation with him," Allen said.

Allen said she feels like "a proud pageant mom" when she watches Dunsmore perform.

"Logan really commands the stage whenever he performs. You don't want to look away and miss the joke. Even when it's a joke I've heard before, they always make me laugh just as hard," Allen said.

Dunsmore's father, Scott Dunsmore, agreed that his son appears comfortable when he performs his sets.

"As his father, I am surprised how relaxed he looks on stage. I am so proud of him because it takes a certain person to be able to put themselves out there like he does," Scott Dunsmore said. "He always tries his best. That is a character trait that will serve him well throughout his life."

Following his graduation in May, Dunsmore plans to move to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he has already accepted a job in his field. Aside from his new career, he is excited to submerge himself in Milwaukee's comedy scene and continue performing at open mics.

"That's my plan as of right now: just go to Milwaukee, make some plastic parts and make people laugh," Dunsmore said.

Although he would enjoy becoming a professional comedian one day, Dunsmore said he would be content if that never happens.

"I want to be the best comic I can be, and if that were to entail perhaps pursuing it professionally, if I got to the point to make a wage I could live on off of comedy, then yeah, I'd take that. I think most people would," Dunsmore said. "That being said, if that opportunity never comes knocking on my door, it's not going to deter me from doing standup, because frankly, I just love it. It's a passion. It's not a means to an end by any means."

Dunsmore's dream of fame is certainly not his primary motivation to perform.

"Really, as long as I can tell jokes to strangers, that's all that matters," Dunsmore said.



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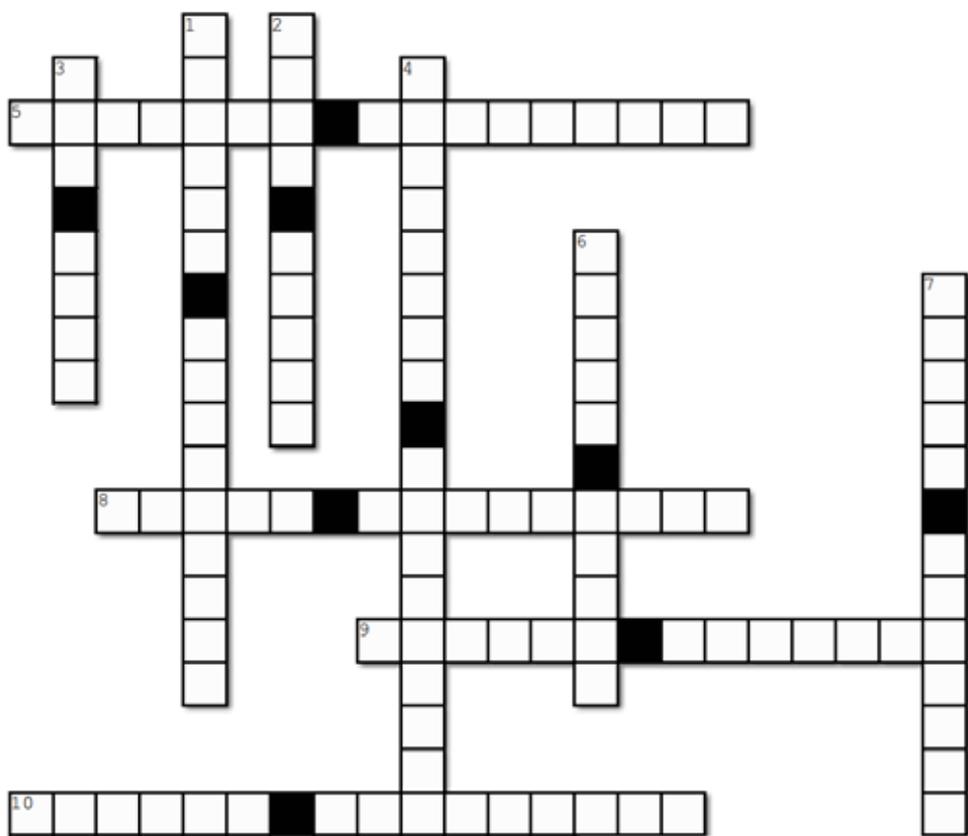
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Who will prevail?

Complete the crossword puzzle below and guess these popular “Game of Thrones” characters!



Across

5. A child king who died a brutal, “well-deserved” death
8. This one-of-a-kind swordsman lost his hand
9. This man is known as “The Hound”
10. This man is currently “Hand of the Queen”

Down

1. This queen who lost her children along the way
2. This younger sister is on a journey of revenge
3. Re-discovering his heritage, this man is the rightful heir
4. Breaker of Chains
6. The “Lady of Winterfell”
7. The would-be heir to the Iron Islands

Across: 5. Joffrey Baratheon 8. Jaime Lannister 9. Sandor Clegane 10. Tyrion Lannister
Down: 1. Cersei Lannister 2. Arya Stark 3. Jon Snow 4. Daenerys Targaryen 6. Sansa Stark 7. Theon Greyjoy



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Game of Thrones



10/10 torches



Promotional Image

Winter is here.

Or at least for the fictional world of Westeros it is.

Like many fans of the series, I waited 500-plus days for the release of the eighth season, and I will be the first to admit, I was not disappointed.

The eighth season hit all the marks I was hoping for — it brought the familiarity of drama, gore and suspense, with a bit of humor to lighten the tone.

Rather than watch the show by myself, I was able to enjoy the experience with my friends — fellow “Game of Thrones” fans who, like myself, lost it when the opening credits began for season eight and that familiar “Dun dun, da-da-da-dun da-da-da dun, da-da-da dun...” began to play, panning over the familiar self-assembling Westeros map.

These opening credits are so iconic, serving as a crucial piece for the rest of the show. I would go so far as to say it's a crime to skip them. Paying attention to these credits, one can even pick up on some possible key locations in future episodes.

That being said, for fans of the series who are not yet caught up or those new to the series, I warn you to read on with caution as I elaborate a little further on season eight.

The opening of season eight had many comparisons to the first episode of season one of the series. Like episode one of season one of the series, episode one of season eight serves as a period to introduce and acquaint our heroes and villains, albeit



Briana Hammtreee
Torch Reporter

some reunions are heart-warming where others' leave the audience sitting in an awkward silence.

Additionally, episode one leads us into the series with a slow burn, like all of the season openings before it, to help set the stage for the remainder of the episodes. While it didn't have nearly as much action as I was anticipating, the show still managed to display the level of violence George R. R. Martin has become so popular for and fans so familiar with.

With only five more episodes left to the series, they are sure to bring the promise of chaos as we see our characters' journeys come to an end.

While I'm sad to see the series ending, I am also equally happy. I would hate to see the show evolve into a never-ending series that loses the magic that once made the show so amazing.

Like “Breaking Bad,” “Game of Thrones” creators are taking a wise note in cutting the series where it seems best, leaving the fans with an amazing cinematic journey they can return to whenever their heart desires.

Those new to the series who are fans of the fantastical world of J. R. R. Tolkien will find themselves captivated by the heart-wrenching, bloody, but equally magical world created by George R. R. Martin.