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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

FROM FSU TO THE NFL
Ferris football alumni Devon Johnson and Malik Taylor signed professional contracts with NFL teams. See what the players have accomplished and where they are headed.
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MARVEL OR DC?
Which do you think is superior? Managing copy editor Rebecca Bostic analyzes the two universes and shares her views.
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An AMAzing achievement

Photo submitted by Lucy Reigle

Ferris American Marketing Association members pose with their chapter plan. AMA was ranked in the top 10 out of 388 chapters nationwide.

Ferris American Marketing Association chapter ranks among the best in the country

Madison Kettlewell
Torch Reporter

For the second year in a row, Ferris' American Marketing Association (AMA) has ranked in the top 10 of 388 total chapters across the country.

AMA is a Five-Star registered student organization (RSO) open to all majors. Right now, AMA has 14 different majors among the students in their RSO. The RSO's theme for this year is "Ready for the World."

Lucy Reigle

"AMA provides community service, professional development, just overall resume building opportunities," Ferris business administration senior and AMA President Lucy Reigle said. "We provide you with real world opportunities to see what's out there for your career and have you as prepared as you can be to be hired."

Reigle said the top 10 ranking can be attributed to many things, including the number of events hosted, how much volunteering they do and general student involvement.

This year, AMA hosted more than 300 events around campus. Some of their biggest events included hosting the Annual Regional Conference, resume workshops and the CROP Hunger Walk. They have also raised almost $7,000 for the CROP Hunger Walk in Mecosta County, which aims to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

AMA achieved more than 1,500 hours of community service. They encourage members to reach 125 hours of community service each year.

Veronica Cousino

Ferris marketing senior and AMA Vice President Veronica Cousino worked on the chapter plan and annual report, which is submitted for the chapter's grading criteria.

"It's everything from professional development to community service to fundraising, to our finances to social life, all those things wrapped up into one to try to explain what we do in a paper form," Cousino said.

The first report submitted is the chapter's goal for the school year. The second report includes details of everything the chapter did over the school year and how they achieved their goals set out in the first report.

Keegan Brown

Ferris marketing senior Keegan Brown said ranking top 10 among 388 chapters is an honor.

"People are a lot more capable than they may tell themselves they are. We're all just Ferris State students from Big Rapids, Michigan, and we're competing with top dogs from Penn State, from Texas State, Temple University — really high-ranking business schools," Brown said. "We go out and just do the best that we can. It really goes to show with that hard work and focus you can do extremely well."

Dirty money

Big Rapids DPS continues counterfeit money investigation

Dan Deitsch
Torch Reporter

The Big Rapids Department of Public Safety is continuing its investigation into allegations of individuals using counterfeit bills in Big Rapids.

"From a government perspective, I think it's concerning," Ferris business administration sophomore Danie Botica said. "If people are making a lot of counterfeit money, then the real money is going to get inflated. That's not good for the economy. If they're catching it now, then at least they know what's fake and what's not."

According to Big Rapids DPS, a group of three unidentified individuals allegedly used counterfeit $100 bills in the Big Rapids community Wednesday, April 10, before traveling to Grand Rapids later that day. The three individuals were said to be driving a dark-colored Jeep Grand Cherokee towards Grand Rapids that evening. The Big Rapids DPS have said the counterfeiters are allegedly using $1 bills to create counterfeit $100 bills by bleaching the smaller bills and reprinting images of $100 bills onto the paper.

Big Rapids DPS and the Mecosta County Sheriff's Office have reached out to the U.S. Secret Service for assistance in the counterfeit currency case. According to the Secret Service, the three unidentified counterfeiters who passed through Big Rapids are allegedly a part of a larger group based out of Chicago, which has operated in Michigan and its surrounding states. This counterfeit currency group has passed approximately 200 different counterfeit bills throughout different businesses in Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Because the counterfeit bills use American $1 notes, they can easily be confused for legitimate currency.

"I don't have a bank account

Counterfeit | see page 3

NEWS

"My goal has always been been to put kind of a human face on this college experience."
- Bill Bitzinger - See page 4 for story

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

No prom-misses here

AEGIS hosts second chance prom

Jordan McElroy
Interim Reporter

The Advocacy for Education of Gender Identity and Sexuality (AEGIS) hosted its second annual Second Chance Prom Friday, April 26, in the University Center.

The event was sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Resource Center and was coordinated by Ferris television and digital media production sophomore Emily Perry.

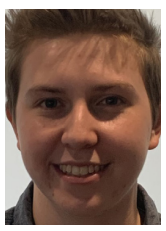
Emily Perry

"It is a pretty decent size event, or at least it was last year being our first year," Perry said.

Canned food donations were also accepted and donated to Project Starburst, which is a nonprofit food bank based in Big Rapids.

"We want people who did not have a chance to go to prom in high school as someone they want to be or with someone they wanted to be to have that chance," said Perry.

The event featured different foods and desserts, as well as musical entertainment and decorations. Eventgoers were dressed in various styles, with some even wearing masks to match the dance's masquerade theme.


Axel Laurain

"I was very excluded from the whole high school scene, just kind of avoided anything that had to do with high school," Ferris welding engineering technology freshman Axel Laurain said. "I went to one dance freshman year and decided prom was not for me."

Ferris actuarial science junior Jaylen Bailey-Bond hoped the event would help others who are of the LGBTQ+ community come together and have fun while meeting new people.

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris digital animation and game design sophomore Alex Simpson and Ferris welding technology freshman Axel Laurain bust a move at the Second Chance Prom Friday, April 26.

Objective: seeking full-time employment

Many Ferris seniors struggle to find careers before graduating

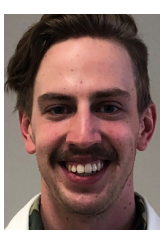
Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

Securing a job post-graduation is a process that, for many Ferris seniors, can be long and stressful.

According to an article by Ferris President David Eisler, 89% of Ferris students find employment in their field upon graduation.

However, some students find the process of getting there to be more difficult than it seems.

Some students become overwhelmed with the requirements of their major, such as Ferris automotive engineering technology senior Samuel Hanzelka, who said that the pressure to find a good internship makes finding a job even more difficult.


Samuel Hanzelka

"I've gone to the career fairs and the events around campus that they have. I go to those and I guess, view employers, but I haven't really tried to put my foot in the door," Hanzelka said. "I feel like, honestly, my program makes it hard because some of their requirements to get a degree are a bit outrageous."

Other students feel that the job field for their major is simply too competitive. Ferris digital animation and game design senior Krystal Davis does not yet have a job, but has been constantly searching for one.

"In the field of game design, it's very competitive. Basically, you want to be the first one in the door with a company over your peers. Otherwise, there's a chance that you could miss out on a wonderful opportunity," Davis said.

For Davis, the stressful job search process consists of looking for opportunities in state, out of state and even out of the country.

"I will say it is stressful, because when you look at those who work for the companies that you want to work for and you see their skill level and their portfolios, you wonder, 'Am I good enough?'" Davis said.

Krystal Davis

Fortunately, Ferris offers a variety of services that can be helpful for students who are looking for their future jobs.

The Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) can help students applying for jobs with document preparation, resume and cover letter review, and a variety of other services, according to Ferris Coordinator for Career and Volunteer Centers Michele Albright.

One of CLACS' useful resources is that, once enrolled at Ferris, an individual can access their services indefinitely. Representatives at the Career Center are happy to assist both current students and alumni.

Online computer platforms such as Handshake and Big Interview are also available to Ferris students. Handshake helps students connect with employers and posts between 11,000 and 17,000 job opportunities each day. Big Interview allows students to practice their interview skills online, since many employers have begun conducting prescreening interviews via Skype, Albright said.

Additional services provided by CLACS include career and internship fairs, career research, career planning assistance, workshops, job shadowing and soft skills certificate programs.

"Ideally, I'd like to see all students visit the office within their first year of college, at least to touch base and see what we have to offer," Albright said.

For career assistance, students can email clacs@ferris.edu or visit the CLACS office in the University Center.

Tips for finding a job after graduation

Take advantage of every networking opportunity

Attend events such as workshops and career fairs

Join a professional organization while at Ferris

Talk with people about your career aspirations

Connect with CLACS early

Do not be overwhelmed by having "too many" options

Take advantage of resources and services on campus

Utilize computer software programs like Handshake and Big Interview

The above information is courtesy of Michele Albright

- ON THE RECORD -

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

You could literally park anywhere off campus

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Invasion of privacy

April 11, 1:06 p.m., a non-student, who previously had a warrant out for his arrest for home invasion and unlawful drive away of an automobile, returned to Ferris campus. The subject went to Brophy-McNerney Hall to visit his friend and then went into another resident's room and Snapchatted her while in her room. The resident told him to leave when she arrived and he refused, so she notified a resident adviser. The subject left before officers came.

Refrain from smoking and driving, please

April 13, 1:30 a.m., an officer made a traffic stop at Warren and Oak Streets for a headlight being out and conducted a traffic stop. When the officer talked to the driver, there was a marijuana odor and the subject admitted to smoking three hours prior. The officers found some partially smoked weed in car. The subject was cited for being a minor in possession of marijuana and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Sick, dude

April 13, 5:30 p.m., a car was stored in Lot 5 and it appeared someone did the "Dukes of Hazzard" slide across the hood of the car and left multiple scratches. The investigation was closed due to lack of leads.

You could literally park anywhere off campus

April 14, 11:45 p.m., officers were patrolling Lot 4 and came across three people sitting in a vehicle. Upon making contact, the subjects smelled like marijuana and admitted to smoking marijuana. They searched the car and found marijuana and THC oil. All subjects were issued citations.

Not as sneaky as you thought

April 14, 1:29 a.m., an officer was on patrol and pulled off at Lee's Auto Wash to run the plate of a vehicle through law enforcement database. The report came back that its owner had a warrant for his arrest out of the State Police in Mount Pleasant. The warrant was for a traffic ticket he had received and the officer arrested subject on warrant.

Ever watched the show Catfish?

April 14, 7:26 p.m., a student came in to the Ferris Department of Public Safety and said he met a young woman on the MeetMe app. He said he also talked to her on Kik and she convinced him to send nude photos of himself. She then demanded $300 or she would share the photos with his Facebook friends. She is not a Ferris student, and the student did not send the money. The investigation is still open and officers directed him to the Internet Crime Complaint Center.

Unsolicited birthday wish

April 15, 6:17 p.m., a student came into the Department of Public Safety to advise that she received an email from her father whom she has a personal protection order against. It was a happy birthday message but it was interpreted by her as passive aggressive and he is not supposed to have contact with her anyway. She was referred to the Muskegon Circuit Court, where the person's permanent residence is.

Keep it off campus

April 16, 11:37 p.m., one of the officers was patrolling Lot 9 and saw a subject hunched over in a car. He stopped to check on him and reported that the subject was extremely impaired by what was believed to be marijuana at the time due to the odor. The subject was acting dazed and officers determined the subject had been consuming THC wax. Officers also found marijuana wax in an Altoids jar. The subject was given a citation and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Respect the answer

April 23, 2:47 p.m., a female student met a male non-student and went on a date. When they got back to Clark Hall, the student reported that he kept trying to take it further than she wanted to go. He touched her inappropriately on several occasions. The student asked him to leave and reported it a couple days after the event. The investigation is still ongoing but will eventually go to prosecutors office, according to Captain Gary Green.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 239 tickets between April 21 and 27 totaling $3,875.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

United States

A measles outbreak has infected 695 people in the U.S., the highest annual number since the disease was reported eliminated in 2000. The virus has been detected in 22 states, with two large, unrelated outbreaks affecting large numbers. One outbreak is in Orthodox Jewish communities in New York City, which has spread to Orthodox communities in Michigan. The other outbreak is in Washington. Many of those affected are children who did not receive the measles vaccination.

Original article by Donald G. McNeil Jr., April 24, 2019. *The New York Times.*

Germany

After a road accident put her in an unconscious state 27 years ago, a woman, Munira Abdulla, woke up. In 1991, Abdulla was 32 when she entered a state of minimum consciousness. Her 32-year-old son, who was 4 when his mom lost consciousness, remained supportive that his mom would wake up. Abdulla, of the United Arab Emirates, was being treated in a private hospital in Germany. Abdulla first began saying her son's name, then reciting verses from the Quran that she memorized before the accident. Doctors did not anticipate her full recovery.

Original article by Palko Karasz and Christopher F. Schuetze, April 24, 2019. *The New York Times.*

Antarctica

The world's second-largest emperor penguin colony — which is at Halley Bay — has failed to recover after it collapsed in 2016, with 10,000 chicks lost. Emperor penguins are vulnerable to rising temperatures and high winds, seeing as they rely on sea ice and are "awkward on land." El Niño caused many storms in September 2015, which created harsh conditions that the penguins could not bear. However, the colony at Halley Bay only represented 8% of the emperor penguin population, so there is no threat to the species.

Original article by Karen Weintraub, April 25, 2019. *The New York Times.*

NEWS BRIEFS

Megan Lewton
Editor in Chief

PIGNIC End of the Year Celebration

Stop by the Office of Multicultural Student Services' annual PIGNIC in the North Quad 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 4. The event, which is free and open to the public, will include free food, music and games. For more information, contact Michael Wade at omss@ferris.edu or (231) 591-2617.

Pancakes with the President

Take a break from studying for finals and enjoy some pancakes with President David Eisler 10 p.m. Monday, May 6, in the Rock Café. For more information or to volunteer at the event, contact Terri Cook at terricook@ferris.edu.

16th Annual Police Memorial

Join the Ferris Department of Public Safety at the 16th Annual Police Memorial 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 7, in the North Quad. If it is raining, the event will be in the University Center Ballroom. The memorial service includes a keynote speaker, an honor guard, the playing of "Taps," a performance by the Big Rapids Middle School Choir and the placement of the wreath. For more information, contact Ferris DPS at (231) 591-5000.

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Counterfeit

Continued from page 1

around here and I don't take out actual money, so I don't think it would put me off using actual cash," Danie Botica said. "I wouldn't think about the money I'm using being counterfeit in the moment, so that wouldn't put me off from using it."

Counterfeit currency has continued to appear throughout Michigan. According to WNEM-TV5, two adult males were arrested in Fenton in relation to using counterfeit currency. The two men, who were from outside the Fenton area, allegedly used counterfeit currency at five separate businesses in the town. The two men also attempted to use the counterfeit currency at several other locations, but the businesses refused to accept the currency. Several other suspects of the incident are currently at large.

"I wouldn't be able to spot fake money if I tried, unless it was like Monopoly money," Danie Botica said.

To report any information on the case, contact Big Rapids DPS at (231) 527-0005.

Ferris State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion or creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status, veteran or military status, height, weight, protected disability, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by applicable State or federal laws or regulations in education, employment, housing, public services, or other University operations, including, but not limited to, admissions, programs, activities, hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, or retention. Retaliation against any person making a charge, filing a legitimate complaint, testifying, or participating in any discrimination investigation or proceeding is prohibited.

Students with disabilities requiring assistance or accommodation may contact Educational Counseling & Disabilities Services at (231) 591-3057 in Big Rapids, or the Director of Counseling, Disability & Tutoring Services for Kendall College of Art and Design at (616) 451-2787 ext. 1136 in Grand Rapids. Employees and other members of the University community with disabilities requiring assistance or accommodation may contact the Human Resources Department, 420 Oak St., Big Rapids, MI 49307, or call (231) 591-2150.

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

Photographing Ferris

Ferris photographer celebrates his 27th year at the university

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

Ferris photographer Bill Bitzinger owns more than 140 cameras, and with them he's captured the past 27 years of Ferris history.

Bitzinger, who is the manager of photographic services at Ferris, began at Ferris shooting black and white film in 1992, and celebrated his 27th year at Ferris Monday, April 1. A lot has changed technologically since then, but his goal of capturing campus life has remained the same.

"It's always been storytelling, and as much as I hate mission statements, my goal has always been to put kind of a human face on this college experience. Not only the students, but also faculty, staff and alumni, and showing what it's like going to school here. The trick is, I get older and everyone else stays 20 years old," Bitzinger said.

In the beginning, Bitzinger's time was spent taking photos by day, and spending hours the next morning developing film in a dark room before going back out to repeat the process. In 2000, Bitzinger and Ferris made the change to digital photography with a camera less powerful than that of modern cellphones.

"I can make photos now that I couldn't make even ten years ago because of technology changes, and certainly not when I started here," Bitzinger said. "I still have the original camera sitting over there on the shelf. A blistering 1.3 megapixels and it cost — with accessories — $15,000. A new car or a camera, what's your choice?"

Holding onto that first digital camera isn't just a memento; it's part of an amassment of more than 140 unique cameras in Bitzinger's collection. His office is filled with a variety of cameras spanning several decades, and toy cameras surround his desk, line the top of his shelves and even hang from the ceiling.

"You go to my house, I have a room 12 by 30 feet, they're stacked up high. I have from very old early 1900s bellows cameras, a shelf full of Nikons, a camera that looks like a Budweiser beer can that was given to me. A wacky collection of stuff. I've run out of room and I don't know what to do with the last couple that I've got," Bitzinger said.

His favorite of all is a Kodak, given to him when he was about 10 years old by the man who introduced him to photography: his grandfather.

From a child developing film under his grandfather's stairs to someone holding a 27-year career as a university photographer, Bitzinger has taken a lot of photos in his life. Hundreds can be found online. His photos — ranging from mural sizes of campus life, to framed black and white photos of a farm — line the walls of the Prakken Building.

As for how long before photography becomes just a hobby again instead of a profession, Bitzinger doesn't have any plans set in stone, but said next year might be his last of capturing Ferris' memories before he retires.

"Over the years, this has been really fun stuff to do. If you look at what I've got hanging up on the walls, I'm really proud of that," Bitzinger said.

Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Ferris Manager of Photographic Services Bill Bitzinger has been taking photos of students and campus life for the past 27 years. Bitzinger's passion for photography began at a young age, and throughout his career, his camera collection has grown drastically.

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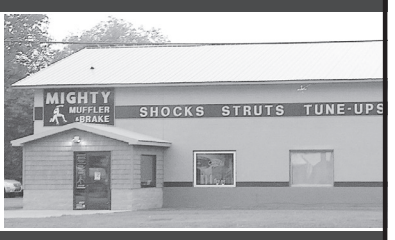

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Best of the Bulldogs

Exceptional students receive awards at Torchbearer ceremony

Landry Shorkey
Torch Reporter

During a night of credit and praise, some Ferris students were honored with awards.

The 19th annual Torchbearer Awards Ceremony took place Tuesday, April 23, in the University Center. The event was hosted by the Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services (CLACS).

The evening consisted of 19 different award categories, many with multiple winners.

Students from several different organizations and academic programs were honored for their exceptional efforts of high grade point average, community service, leadership or involvement.

Torchbearer Awards were given to candidates who are graduating within the next year and have displayed strong leadership. There were 31 nominees for the award and 10 winners.

Ferris environmental biology senior Amber Hubbard was one of the recipients for the Torchbearer Award. She earned the honor after being nominated and completing an essay questionnaire.

Amber Hubbard

"It means a lot. I've put a lot of effort into my campus involvement, and I try to put my effort into things that don't really get noticed as often," Hubbard said. "Organizations that do a lot, but don't get the recognition they deserve, this is for them, really."

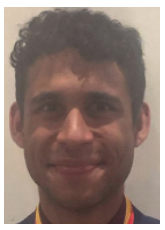
Many of the awards focused on community service hours completed by student volunteers. The Initiative 125 Award was given to 26 individuals, all of whom documented at least 125 hours of community service in Orgsync for the academic year.

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

A student receives an award at the 19th annual Torchbearer Awards Ceremony Tuesday, April 23. Recipients were recognized for their accomplishments regarding academic excellence, community service, leadership or involvement.

Ferris biotechnology senior and Initiative 125 Award recipient Trevor Polisuk-Balfour was recognized for his efforts. He recently began volunteering with Hospice and working in a fruit fly lab.

"I've been volunteering for a decent amount since freshman year," Polisuk-Balfour said. "I guess this is the first time I've really been recognized for it. I think that it's not so much winning the award that means a lot to me; it's the experience that I've gained from the process toward attaining this award that means a lot to me."


Trevor Polisuk-Balfor

Volunteers with the largest number of hours were additionally recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Award. Winners were Stephanie Weller with 553.5 hours, Arianna Lozano with 466.8 hours and Cassandra Kolka with 437.45 hours.

Other awards focused on involvement in registered student organizations (RSOs).

In the Five Star RSO category, winners were the American Marketing Association, the Social Work Association and Students for Sensible Drug Policy. In addition to the award, the organizations have earned future special privileges and access to invitation-only events.

Students involved in Greek Life were also recognized with several awards. The New Member of the Year award was given to Mckenna Matthews of Zeta Tau Alpha and the President of the Year Award was given to Shaylee Meyer of Alpha Xi Delta.

Additional award categories recognized outstanding students from the Honors program, Office of Multicultural Student Services, study abroad program and Center for Latin@ Studies, among others. The event included two performances by the student band Kap and the Keys.

Not all heroes wear capes

Students decorated cards send to children with cancer on Love Your Melon Superhero Day Thursday, April 25.

Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

FERRIS STATE TORCH

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LIFESTYLES

"Because taking an exam can be hard enough — doing it while you're half-awake is going to be extremely dificult." - *Jennifer Tran - See below for story*

Alicia Jaimes | *Lifestyles Editor* | jaimesa@ferris.edu

Crunch time

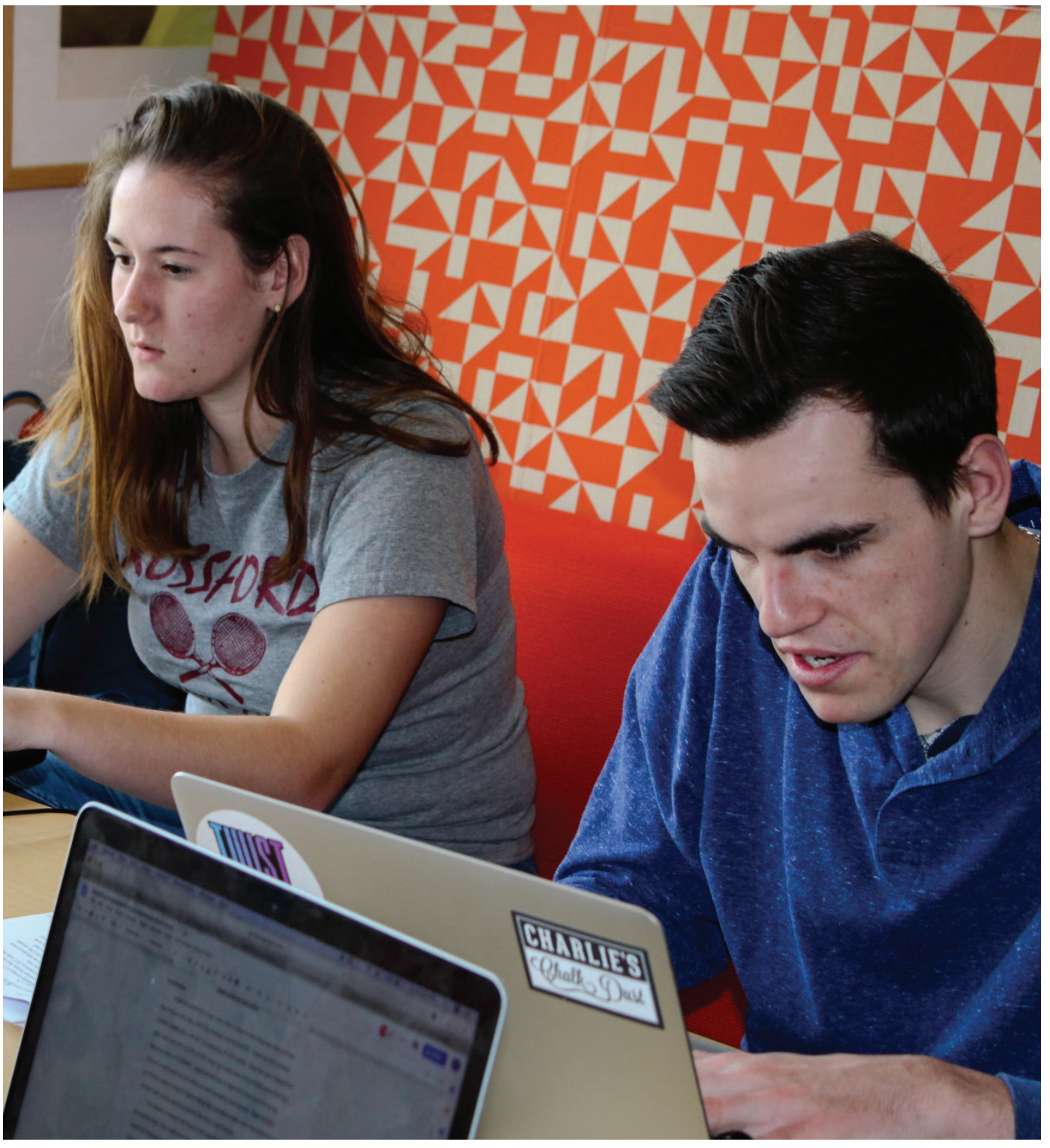


Photo by: Taylor Davis | Torch Photographer

Ferris professional tennis management seniors Carly Hollerbach and Connor Poe use the "study buddy" method in preparation for final exams.

To schedule an appointment

Call: (231) 591-3543

Visit: FLITE 120

Online: Click on MyFSU/ Student/ Academic support/ Tutor Trac login.

Helpful places to study

1. The Tutoring Center

2. FLITE

3. The study tables at CLACS

Tips and tricks to help you study

1. Sleep properly

2. Don't cram; study in moderation

3. Go to office hours and speak to your professor about information you don't understand

4. Eat healthy foods

5. Use the Tutoring and Writing Centers — It's free

6. Make a Quizlet

7. Write and highlight notes instead of just reading them

It's the most stressful time of the year

Marissa Russell
Interim Reporter

April showers might bring May flowers, but they also bring spring exams, and that's all Ferris students are concerned with right now.

Madeline Keely

Ferris nursing junior and President of the Honors Student Association and Honors Student Council Madeline Keely notices many students cram right before tests instead of taking the time to study consistently.

"A lot of students just print out notes and stuff, and just look through it. They never highlight or write notes on the paper, or even write notes on a whiteboard," Keely said. "A lot of people don't have a photographic memory, so just staring at a paper isn't going to do a whole lot for them."

Keely believes the best way to study is to make time and not wait until the last minute.

For classes like math or chemistry, Keely will review the formulas with a goal of knowing them by heart. For courses that need more memorization, like biology, she will use Quizlet, a website and an app that is free to use. Keely recommends students use this tool for their classes to help ease study stress.

Jennifer Tran

While some students might be saving their studying for a last-minute trip to the Tutoring Center, Ferris biotechnology senior and Tutoring Center employee Jennifer Tran advises students not to come too late, and to instead be prepared and set up an appointment. This is the best way to make sure there will be a tutor available for your specific class.

"Try your best to actually sleep," Tran said. "Because taking an exam can be hard enough — doing it while you're half-awake is going to be extremely difficult."

While sleep is essential, eating properly is, too. The Tutoring and Writing Centers offer snacks for students to munch on while working there.

Though Tran helps students study, she is also a student with finals coming up. Looking over the materials that will be on the exam, as well as reading through notes and study guides, helps Tran remember class discussions so she doesn't have to cram the night before.

Academic Literacy Center paraprofessional Kimberly Smith advises students to start studying early and making a five-day study plan.

A common mistake that students make, according to Smith, is studying for too long without taking breaks. Smith said students should study for an hour, then take a five-minute break. She also recommends switching subjects every so often.

Smith suggests students start studying early, have a plan, use old study guides and seek out a tutor.

Considering exam week, the Tutoring Center will have extended hours for students. Instead of closing at 5 p.m., they will be closing at 8 p.m. starting Monday, April 29, and ending Thursday, May 2, by appointment only. The Tutoring and Writing Centers are located in FLITE 120.

To schedule an appointment at the Tutoring Center, call (231) 591-3543, go to FLITE 120 or navigate MyFSU/ Student/ Academic support/ Tutor Trac login. To schedule an appointment with the Writing Center, visit ferris.mywconline.com.

Options and opportunities

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris nuclear medicine junior Idasha Jones inquires about summer opportunities in Big Rapids.

Work to do around BR

Veronica Mascorro
Interim Reporter

As summer approaches in Big Rapids, there's more for students to do than just take classes.

With more than 18 tables ranging from the Big Rapids Library to Cran-Hill Ranch, the Summer Job and Resource Fair held Tuesday, April 22, served to inform students about the different opportunities that were available to them over the summer and in the fall.

According to Ferris Retention and Student Success Supervisor Karen Royster-James, the Academic Support Center at Ferris is always looking for students to work as tutors or office assistants.

"The really cool thing is that you aren't restricted to one position," Royster-James said. "You can train as an office assistant at the front desk and become a tutor as well."

Karen Royster-James

The Ferris Department of Public Safety has four different positions that are available for students, with flexible hours. On top of that, all positions fit well with those who are trying to build their resume or get involved with some of their favorite pastimes.

The volleyball team is looking for students who qualify for work study to assist the team. They welcome everyone with open arms and are looking for anything from someone who can write down statistics or work in the office, or even help with recruiting.

A lot of the jobs offered were for the upcoming fall semester; however, the event displayed many opportunities for students who are living in town over the summer.

The Student Recreation Centre, for example, is looking for lifeguards, facility and climbing wall staff for their summer hours. Ferris Housing is also offering free housing to any student that is enrolled in at least 6 credits.

Michigan Works Career Navigator Cassie Smith expressed the abundance of offers they had for students that many might not know about.

"There are a ton of opportunities through Michigan Works to get funding for your education," Smith said. "We also do a youth work experience program that pays students to work with local employers to gain skills that are useful for future employment."

Students are not limited to these options; the student employment page lists many more jobs for students who are looking.

For more information on these job opportunities, visit the student employment page through myfsu.ferris.edu.

Places looking for employees

Academic Support Center
- Tutors
- Office Assistants

Americorp
- Full-time team-based residential service program for 18- to 24-year-old adults who want to serve their country for 10 consecutive months. Provides students with free housing and can pay for your education.

Big Rapids Community Library
- Work study
- volunteer

Center for Latin@ Studies
- Office assistants
- Promesa Summer Success volunteers

CLACS
- Project staff
- Staff Assistant roles
- Lead roles
- Interns

Cran-Hill Ranch
- Student workers and volunteers

Department of Public Safety
- Student Dispatcher
- Student Parking Clerk
- Foot patrol
- Service officer

Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning
- Student assistants

Ferris Housing
- Students can get free housing if they are enrolled in at least 6 credits

Human Resources
- Electronic Management Technician

JCPenney
- Cashiers
- Operations Associate

Michigan Works
- Paid work experience
- Apprenticeships
- Tuition/book assistance
- Training opportunities
- Career guidance
- Part-time jobs

Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships
- Student assistants
- Clerical work

Quad Café
- Student workers

Recreation Center
- Lifeguards
- Intermural officials
- Outdoor/climbing wall staff
- Facility staff

Volleyball team
- Student workers for the Volleyball team

Mind your Z's

No rest for the academics

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

It's not uncommon to hear how college students receive fewer than six hours of sleep during finals week. Just ask Ferris pre-nursing sophomore Rachel Schneider.

Rachel Schneider

"During finals week, I probably get three to four hours a night of sleep — about six hours during regular school time," Schneider said.

While many students find their hectic schedules and lack of sleep normal, these habits can lead to sleep deprivation.

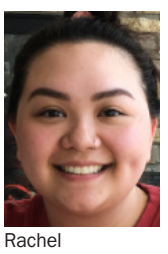
Healthresearchfunding.org describes sleep deprivation as a condition occurring when people don't receive enough sleep, which is also related to the concept of sleep deficiency. This happens when people don't get enough sleep, sleep at the wrong time of day or don't sleep well at all.

"During finals week, I get like six-ish hours of sleep — I'm just really bad at getting enough sleep. Like, I'll look at the clock and realize it's an hour and a half later than I thought it was," Ferris medical laboratory science freshman Brooke Allen said.

The American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) concluded the primary effect of sleep deprivation includes excessive daytime sleepiness; however, other effects can also include symptoms of depression, anxiety and lack of concentration — which can be counterproductive when studying.

While there are many reasons students struggle with sleep deprivation, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) found 68% of college students report they have trouble falling asleep at night because they're stressed from academics or something affecting them emotionally.

Students don't seem to be surprised by these statistics whatsoever.



Rachel Bell

"I can see it. For instance, when I don't take my melatonin, because I lost it for a couple days, I noticed I couldn't sleep well and was worried about finding a job and passing exams. So, I can see how worrying about academics can hurt your sleep," Ferris pre-pharmacy sophomore Rachel Bell said.

Thankfully, there are various methods students can use to alleviate the struggles of sleep deprivation.

Christy Bourdlais

"Exercise several days a week, but not right before bed," Birkam Health Center nurse practitioner Christy Bourdlais said. "Working with a counselor or psychologist to deal with the problems that might be causing poor sleep."

When it comes to combating sleep deprivation, Schneider, who blames her lack of sleep on a busy mind, uses meditation to help refocus.

"I meditate, which really helps a lot. Breathing — just watching my breathing and counting back from 100 just helps me clear out my head from all the stuff going on," Schneider said.

Students who are concerned they may have a sleeping disorder should consult with their doctors.

Counting sheep

The following tips have been advised by American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) at aasm.org.

Go to bed early
Go to bed early enough to ensure you're getting seven to eight hours of sleep.

Get out of bed
Trouble falling asleep? Get out of bed and do something relaxing until you're sleepy. That being said, try to avoid using your bed to study, read, watch TV or talk on the phone. Keep your bed as a slumber sanctuary.

Limit naptime
Nap before 3 p.m. and for less than an hour.

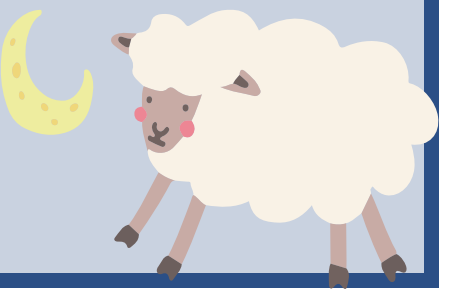
Sync sleep schedule
Getting up at around the same time each day is best for you, especially when you find it hard to break the cycle of sleeping in late on Mondays.

Avoid caffeine
Don't drink caffeine in the afternoon or at night. It will stay in your system for hours.

Set the mood
When winding down for the night, begin to dim the lights so your body realizes sleep is coming. Similarly, let sunlight in during the morning to help wake up.

Relax
Detox yourself from your computer, TV and cell phone before going to bed by taking 15 to 30 minutes to relax quietly.

Snack
Don't have a big meal right before bed. However, you can have a light snack to ensure you don't go to bed hungry.



Feeling the pain?

Exam week brings more than just stress

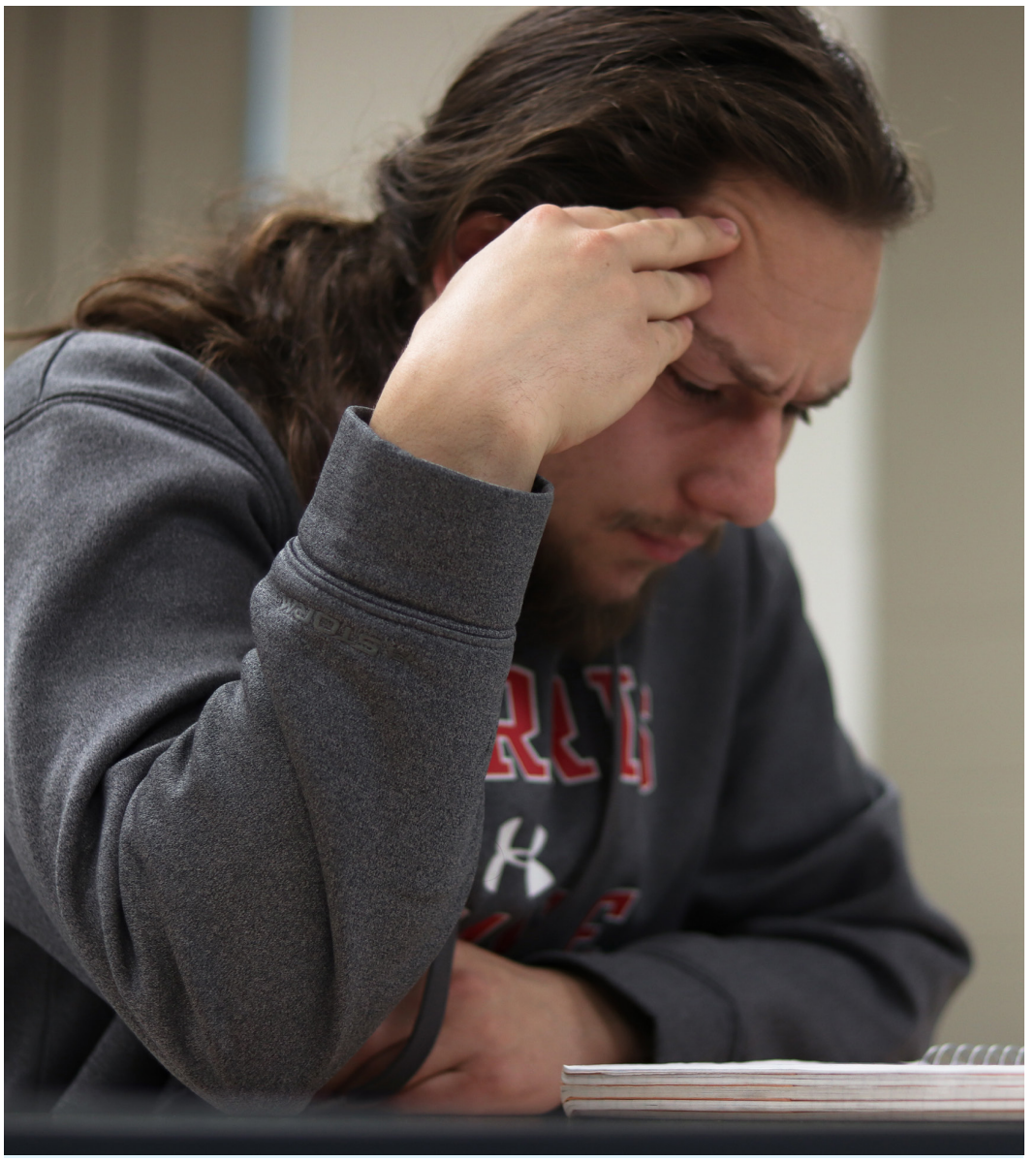


Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

Ferris mechanical engineering senior Chase Cara experiences a headache while cramming for finals week.

Alicia Jaimes
Lifestyles Editor

As exam week rounds the corner, students are cramming their homework, losing sleep and, as a result, getting more headaches than usual.

With all the different types of headaches out there, it's no surprise that stress is usually one of the number one headache triggers.

"I get headaches at least three times a month. However, depending on stress and allergies, it can be up to twice a week," Ferris nursing junior and President of the Honors Student Association and Honors Student Council Madeline Keely said.

While there are many types of headaches, Ferris Birkam Health Center Physician Peter VanDeMark sees students for tension headaches and migraines the most.

"I get migraines, so it feels like someone is crushing my skull. Normally noises, bright lights and touching/moving my head make them worse," Keely said.

According to VanDeMark, some headache triggers can be stress, skipping meals or eating too little, having too much or too little caffeine, sleeping too much or too little, drinking alcohol and consuming certain drinks or foods such as red wine, aged cheese or hotdogs.

Ferris nursing junior Courtney Krcmarik gets her headaches about once a month and has noticed they are affected by the weather and her diet.

"I tend to get dehydration headaches in the summer or when I am replacing my daily water intake with coffee," Krcmarik said.

According to healthline.com, sipping on caffeinated beverages such as tea or coffee may help relieve pain when you are experiencing a headache. However, as Krcmarik experienced, be careful not to drink too much.

"Caffeine withdrawal has also been shown to cause headaches if a person regularly consumes large amounts of caffeine and suddenly stops," healthline.com said.

Instead of quitting cold turkey, Krcmarik likes to increase her water intake and decrease how much caffeine she's having as a long-term goal, but has a few short-term solutions that have helped her in the past.

"If I have the time, I try and take a little nap. Otherwise, I take ibuprofen," Krcmarik said.

Like Krcmarik, Keely turns to medications, such as Excedrin or Motrin, cold compresses water.

"If you take care of your body, you can minimize headaches," Krcmarik said.

While some headaches are caused by a lack of caffeine or caffeine withdrawal, there are also certain foods and activities that may be contributing to students' headaches. Because of this, VanDeMark recommends keeping a "headache calendar."

"Write down every time you have a headache and what you ate and did before it started," VanDeMark said. "That way, you can find out if there is anything you should avoid eating or doing. You can also write down any medication you take for the headache and whether it helped."

Keeping a headache calendar may be an affordable solution that can help you figure out your symptoms, but if you are struggling with analyzing the data collected, students are encouraged to seek additional help.

"If you have frequent or severe headaches, you should not try to manage them yourself, but should see your doctor to make an accurate diagnosis and find a treatment program that works," VanDeMark said.

For students experiencing headaches and migraines, see your local physician or visit Birkam Health Center.

Remedies to alleviate pain

While there are so many medications students can use, here are some things you can do at home to decrease and alleviate reoccurring headaches.

1. Drink water
2. Create a regular sleep schedule
3. Don't miss meals
4. Limit alcohol
5. Get sleep
6. Use essential oils
7. Practice relaxation such as meditation or yoga
8. Use a cold compress
9. Try an elimination diet
10. Take breaks when studying

The above information was found on healthline.com and headaches.org

What's causing your headache?

1. Temporary stress, fatigue and anxiety
2. Cramming for finals
3. Hangovers
4. Straining your eyes reading small-print textbooks or staring at a computer screen
5. Hunching over your laptop or textbooks

The above information was found on headaches.org

Road to success

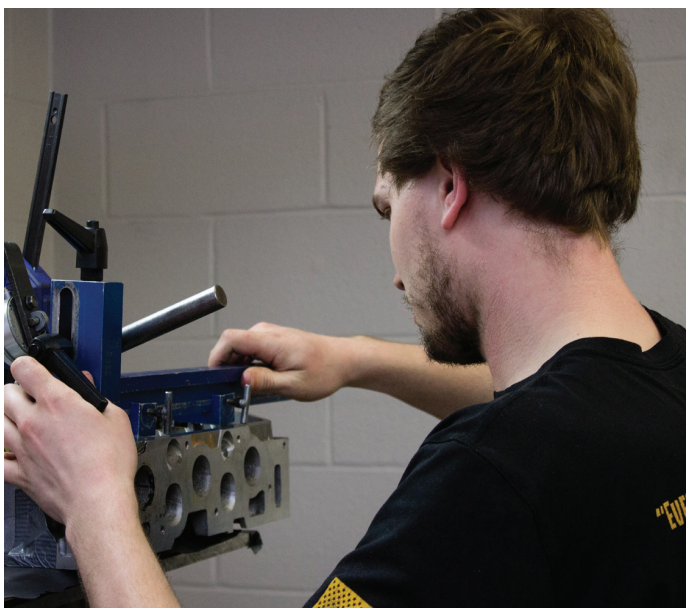


Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris automotive engineering technology senior Ian Scott works on a project.

For the love of cars

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

A passion for cars began at a young age for Ferris automotive management senior Madelyn Hamilton.

"When I was little, my stepdad, he always worked on cars, and I was always around helping. And when he took me to my first auto show, the Detroit Auto show, when I was probably in first grade, I've found I've wanted to be in the automotive industry," Hamilton said.

Despite her love for automobiles, Hamilton knew she wanted to pursue a business degree. To find the best of both her passion and her future, Hamilton decided on automotive management, allowing her to continue doing what she enjoys while also elaborating on her people skills.

Within her first year in the program, she joined the Automotive Management Student Organization (AMSO), a registered student organization (RSO) built on the interest of the car industry.

"A few things we do every year is a group outing — if everybody can afford it — to SEMA in Las Vegas, which is for a big automotive convention thing," Ferris automotive management senior Samuel Ploeg said. "We also do a car wash to raise funds for that trip."

Various members of AMSO have found it rewarding as they make connections and gain experiences that will help them in the future.

"Holding a position on the E-board looks really good to businesses and on interviews. Like, every time I've gone into an interview, they've always asked me about it. It's rewarding knowing that I got involved and have a support group," Hamilton said.

Like Hamilton, Ferris automotive management senior and AMSO President Austin Eby has found the experience to be rewarding as a transfer student.

"It helps build connections to employers through our Facebook page that have connected with previous students who have now graduated and are now in the field. It helps, keeping us connected with the alumni," Eby said.

AMSO was created alongside the automotive management program in 1971 to provide support, and a co-curricular social and academic environment to help in establishing and developing future automotive leaders.

AMSO has seen various members come and go since its creation, with Ferris assistant professor of the automotive management program and alumni Michele Harvey being one.

Now serving as the adviser for the RSO, Harvey found that AMSO has developed a symbiotic relationship between the faculty, students, program and the organization that has allowed for the program to be so successful and rewarding. He enjoys seeing students' success when they get the job they want.

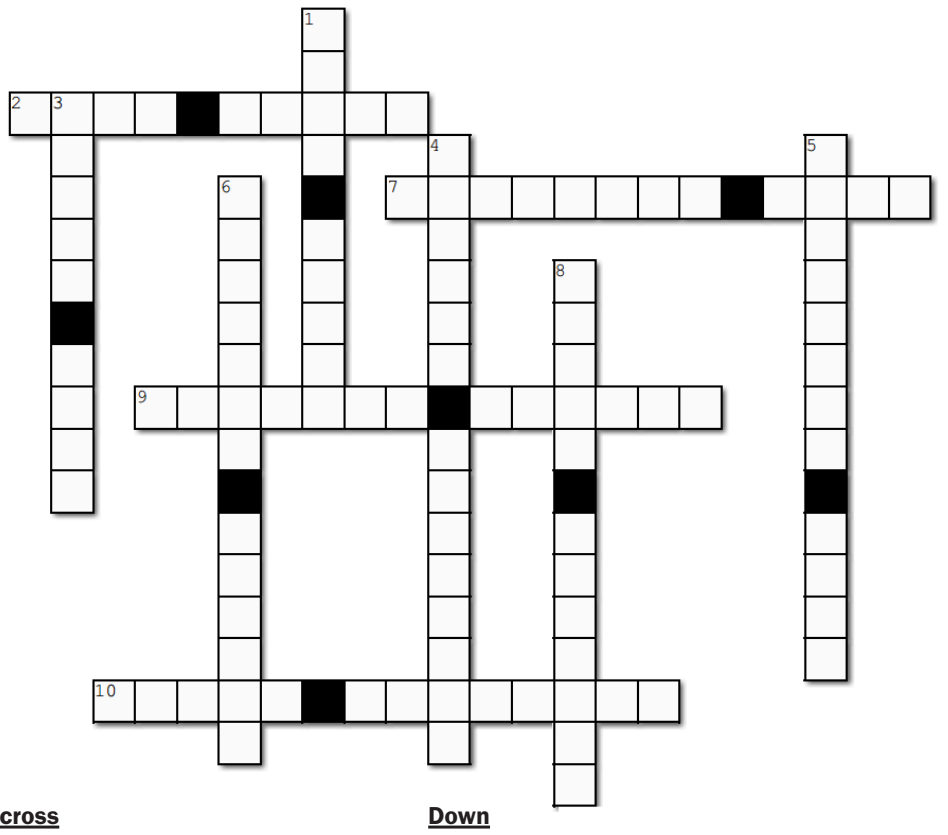
"Seeing that all of their hard work — all of our hard work — has led them to that success. That is probably one of the most rewarding things," Harvey said.

AMSO Meeting Info

Meeting Days:	Meeting Time:	Location:
Once a month on Tuesday/Thursday	11 a.m.	Auto 102

Doctor to doctor

Answer the crossword below and test your Grey's Anatomy knowledge!



Across
2. This doctor claimed to hate kids, but found his life's work in Peds.
7. This person is referred to as the "child of darkness."
9. "I hear everything. I know everything. I'm watching each and every one of you, and I will return."
10. "You were like coming up for fresh air. It's like I was drowning, and you saved me."

Down
1. One of the originals in the "Plastics Posse."
3. Which character wore a diaper in surgery?
4. This character joined the army to be a trauma surgeon but never made it there.
5. "Mama took my eyebrows. She took my eyebrows, and now, I'm a Burke."
6. Who was the first Chief of Surgery?
8. Which character fell in love with a patient and cut his LVAD?

Across: 2. Alex Karev 7. Meredith Grey 9. Miranda Bailey 10. Derek Shepherd
Down: 1. Mark Sloan 3. Lexie Grey 4. George O'Malley 5. Cristina Yang 6. Richard Webber 8. Izzie Stevens

Summer Employment Opportunities

Inventory Specialist - Level I
IT Digital Signage & Marketing Assistant
IT Solution Center Desktop Support
IT Solution Center Service Desk

Apply on FSU's Student Employment website or feel free to stop by UCB 108.

Work Study Not Required!

SPORTS

"To show that you can go out there and beat anybody at any time, that is a huge morale boost for future seasons." - *Kristin Janes* - *See page 12 for story*

Cora Hall | *Sports Editor* | hallc36@ferris.edu

From FSU to the NFL

Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Former Ferris wide receiver Malik Taylor had one of the most successful careers in Ferris history, with 121 catches, 2,091 yards and 12 touchdowns, all while being injured for the majority of his senior year.

Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Former Ferris offensive lineman Devon Johnson leaves Ferris as a two time All-American and two time All-Conference player.

A pair of Bulldogs sign contracts with National Football League

Noah Poser
Torch Reporter

Ferris football continues to show its excellence with another year of multiple players signing professional contracts.

Ferris alums wide receiver Malik Taylor and offensive lineman Devon Johnson both signed contracts with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Atlanta Falcons, respectively, after the conclusion of the 2019 NFL Draft Saturday, April 27.

Many already know Johnson's story as the underdog.

To refresh your memory, rewind a little bit before he signed an NFL contract with the Falcons. Go back before he reached stardom at one of the powerhouses of Division II football. At this point, you should have arrived at Waubonsie Valley High, the former high school of Johnson, where he made just one varsity start.

At that point, he was a so-called "clumsy giant." Now he is an NFL player, one who will look to continue a recent trend of former Bulldogs latching onto NFL rosters.

"At first I was kind of nervous," Johnson said. "I thought that Saturday was really going to be my day to be drafted. But once I started to look at it and realize that it was more of a defensive draft, I sort of understood. I was so excited when I got the call in the middle of the seventh round from the Falcons. I knew it was my opportunity."

Johnson gets his shot in the NFL after an illustrious career at Ferris, one that is full of accolades. Johnson is a two time All-American, a freshman All-American and a two-time All-Conference selection.

Devon Johnson

On top of that, he was one of just a few Division II prospects to be invited to the NFL Players Association Bowl and even parlayed that into an invite to the NFL combine, where he got a chance to show how improved he is from the kid who couldn't crack the starting lineup in high school.

"I'm really confident in my abilities," Johnson said. "I'm going to take it day by day and soak it all in and try my hardest. I'm really excited for the opportunity because I know that I have the ability, the talent and the size and the enthusiasm to stick around the league. You know, I don't doubt myself at all. I'm really excited for this and I feel like this is my time to shine. I've got nothing to lose."

Johnson wasn't the lone member of the pack to sign a contract after the conclusion of Saturday's NFL Draft.

Taylor signed a contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who happen to be the division rival of the Falcons.

Malik Taylor

Taylor gained a lot of momentum in the drafting process just weeks before the draft as he started to fully recover from a hamstring injury that meant he missed much of his senior season at Ferris. He was then able to convert that momentum into a shot to land a job in the NFL.

Taylor leaves Ferris after a successful career both team-wise and individually with the Bulldogs. He finishes his career with 121 catches for 2,091 yards and 12 touchdowns, which puts him among the best receivers in Ferris history.

Sports Shorts

Noah Poser
Torch Reporter

Golf receives NCAA Division II Championship bid

For the 16th time in the past 17 years, the Ferris golf team has earned a bid to play in the NCAA Division II Championships.

The Bulldogs were chosen for the regional competition by the NCAA Division II Men's Golf Selection Committee Friday, April 26, along with 79 other teams and 32 individual student athletes.

The Bulldogs made it to this point in large part by capturing their 20th Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship last week. Their victory required defeating Grand Valley State University in head-to-head semifinal action before topping Ashland University in the finals.

Henderson State University hosts the Bulldogs' regional, and Ferris earned the fourth seed in the Midwest region.

The Ferris men's golf team is two years removed from their runner-up finish in the Midwest region. That year, under head coach Kyle Wittenbach, the Bulldogs advanced all the way to the national quarterfinals.

With Ferris senior golfer Andrew Hammett qualifying individually for regionals last year, it marks the 17th consecutive year in which Ferris has had representation in the NCAA Tournament. It remains one of the longest active streaks in the nation.

Zach Hankins stars at Portsmouth Invitational

Former Ferris basketball player Zach Hankins showed out at the Portsmouth Invitational Saturday, April 20. The invitational is strictly for the most successful seniors in college basketball and is the first of two NBA pre-draft camps.

Portsmouth, Virginia, hosts this year's invitational that has been held annually since 1953. Some of the most successful players in NBA history have participated in the event, including Scottie Pippen, Dennis Rodman, John Stockton, Tim Hardaway and Ben Wallace.

While Hankins entered the tournament as an NBA long shot, his strong week earned him a shoutout by Sports Illustrated as someone who could potentially find themselves an NBA contract this summer.

This doesn't ensure Hankins will be drafted, but it does indicate he'll be on a few teams' radars come time to sign players for the summer league.

THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Wednesday, May 1:

- Track & field at GLIAC Outdoor Championships

Thursday, May 2:

- Track & field at GLIAC Outdoor Championships

Friday, May 3:

- Track & field at GLIAC Outdoor Championships
- Softball vs. GVSU in GLIAC Tournament 10 a.m.

Saturday, May 4:

- Softball vs. TBD in GLIAC Tournament

Sunday, May 5:

- Softball vs. TBD in GLIAC Tournament

Ready for the fall

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris head football coach Tony Annese addresses his team in a huddle after the spring game.

Ferris football showed potential at spring game to go even further than 2018

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

The Bulldogs just closed out their spring training and ended with the annual spring game tradition, where the team — split into two teams for this game — didn't hold anything back.

With Ferris junior quarterback Jayru Campbell out with an injury for the spring game, the offense was split between three different quarterbacks. Ferris sophomore Evan Cummins started at quarterback for the white team and took all the snaps, and Ferris freshman Dezmin Lyburtus started as quarterback for the crimson team, but was taken out late in the third quarter for Ferris senior quarterback Travis Russell.

All quarterbacks looked good and showcased their potential, but the one who stood out the most was Russell. With Ferris head football coach Tony Annese not wanting Russell to take a lot of hits in the spring game, Russell did come into the game with a little rust to start, but that quickly faded.

"We didn't want Travis to do much of anything besides throw it a little bit," Annese said. "Russell is a starter for us too and always will be. That's how I treat him because he has won so many games here at Ferris State and we have a lot of trust in his capacity."

Overall, the offense looked the best with Russell under center without Campbell. I predict Annese will go with Russell as his starting quarterback if Campbell is unable to start the season this fall.

Russell seems calm and relaxed in the pocket and just has a feel of where defenders are on the field. He makes tight, crisp passes, and trusts his receivers to catch what he throws their way.

The rest of the offense looked good with the line getting solid blocks and allowing their running backs to get to where the play was going, as well as giving time for their quarterbacks to throw the ball downfield.

The receivers had many opportunities to make big plays deep down the field and made some big time catches late in the game. However, they did miss a few great opportunities that they could've capitalized on. The receivers also showed excellent run blocks, allowing their running backs to bounce around and gain more yards.

"We're not looking to show anything and most of the stuff we are showing is pretty vanilla on both sides of the ball," Annese said.

On the other side of the ball, the defense looked just as good, if not better than it did last year.

Deflecting many passes and coming down with four interceptions in the spring game, the Bulldogs showed that their defense is ready to shut down opposing offenses this fall. The defensive line plugged up many of the holes, and there was not much room for running backs to get free. What the linemen didn't fill would always catch another Bulldog right there to plug the void.

"Our defense, we almost got everyone back from

Football | *see page 12*

Young team, winning attitude

Ferris softball building young core

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

With only three seniors on the Ferris softball team, the underclassmen are stepping up in their roles so the team can advance into the postseason.

This year, the softball team has had 213 runs in 52 games of the regular season, including 17 home runs. With such a young core of players, the coaches have also looked to bring in more young talent. The underclassmen on the softball team don't stop them from growing and learning how to win games. In fact, they are becoming significant parts of the team's growth.

Kristin Janes

"You can see it out on the field, not just in the dugout, or off the field kind of things, but you're seeing the younger classmen step up into more pivotal roles on the field in games and see them be leaders out there as well," Ferris head softball coach Kristin Janes said.

The softball team has earned the final spot in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) tournament. Janes understands that only eight teams out of the nine in the conference make the playoffs, but it's still a huge deal to her and the team.

"It shows that it's not a guarantee and it shows them that we have wins against everyone in the conference this year except for one," Janes said. "To show that you can go out there and beat anybody at any time, that is a huge morale boost for future seasons."

Not only is the head coach seeing the team build around younger talents, but so are the upperclassmen who are helping teach those younger players.

Ferris junior pitcher Connor Proctor, who transferred from Lansing Community College, said having a young team shows how much progress they have made this season with so many underclassmen.

"You can tell that we are a building program, and we are getting better while bringing in good players," said Proctor. "There's a different type of playing here, but we've really gotten along very well, and very good cohesion with everyone."

Jackie Kirkpatrick

Not only does Proctor see this young core working well as a team, but so does Ferris sophomore third baseman Jackie Kirkpatrick. With a year under her belt, Kirkpatrick can tell that the freshmen aren't shy of being physical to win.

"They're coming in, making base hits and stepping up big as young talents, along with the entire team being physical," said Kirkpatrick. "Everybody has a job and they do that job."

Kirkpatrick said this was the most positive team she has ever been on.

With everyone on the softball team working well together and helping in every way they can, the upperclassmen have built great chemistry among the team and it shows.

"Those three seniors have been here a really long time and made a huge impact on this team and this program couldn't have better leaders," Janes said. "It's been really awesome to have these three seniors be able to teach, show and lead the underclassmen how things are supposed to be."

Ferris softball advanced to the postseason and will be the No. 8 seed in the GLIAC tournament, which is a double elimination tournament. The Bulldogs will be taking on rival Grand Valley State University in the first round of the tournament starting 10 a.m. Friday, May 3, in Sandusky, Ohio.

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris sophomore infielder Kodi Ramirez snags a hit at home for the Bulldogs. Ramirez holds a batting average of .353 this season.

WANTED:
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

REQUIREMENTS
Efficiency in Adobe InDesign
Working knowledge of Photoshop
Team player. Join us.

INSURANCE BENEFITS OFFERED • 401K • COMPETITIVE WAGE

Email your resumé to njones@pioneergroup.com

Football

Continued from page 12

last year and we added some good pieces and got transfers, so we expect them to be really good," Annese said. "They're a group of guys that know where they need to be, and we feel confident that they're going to be a good unit."

As the saying goes, "Defense wins championships." Ferris has an outstanding defense and can go toe-to-toe with anyone they come across. With the Bulldogs coming off a historic season last year, they have all the tools and weapons to do even better this year. Throughout the last five years, Ferris has kept a record of 60 wins with only eight losses.

The Bulldogs have a great chance to do it again and continue being a powerhouse of Division II football.

"Our philosophy is to develop depth and to get the unproven guys opportunity to be seen," Annese said.

Ferris football kicks off the 2019 season against the University of Findlay (Ohio) Oilers 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, at Top Taggart field.

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Swinging forward

Ferris men's golf team adds some hardware

Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

Fighting Michigan weather conditions can be tough for any golf team, but for the best ones it's just one more challenge to overcome. The Ferris men's golf team overcame that challenge and more to be crowned this year's conference champions.

The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) tournament was held Friday, April 19, through Sunday, April 21, in Battle Creek. Eleven teams from 11 schools shared one goal: to be conference champs.

After the second day of competition, Ferris ranked No. 3 which advanced them in the final day of play. After beating Grand Valley State University Sunday morning, the Bulldogs went on to beat No. 1 seeded Ashland Eagles by a score of 2-1-2 to claim their first GLIAC championship since 2010.

This result was not out of the blue or unexpected from the Bulldog team, as competition went well for them throughout the season. Ferris has finished top three on six occasions during tournament play this year with three tournament wins. The GLIAC tournament's competing team is comprised of four seniors and one freshman, and the team has depended on the older guys to get the job done.

"Tournament experience is arguably the most important factor in being a successful tournament player," Ferris men's golf head coach Kyle Wittenbach said. "Therefore, having a group of older, wiser and more experienced players is generally going to produce results, as long as their work ethic and discipline hasn't faltered. I sometimes joke that if I had five 29-year-olds in my lineup, we would win the National Championship every year. So, needless to say, these seniors have done their job and put in their time and are winning as a consequence."

Kyle Wittenbach

The golf team headed into the season with a motto and philosophy that each player goes by: "We are going to win the 'right way.'"

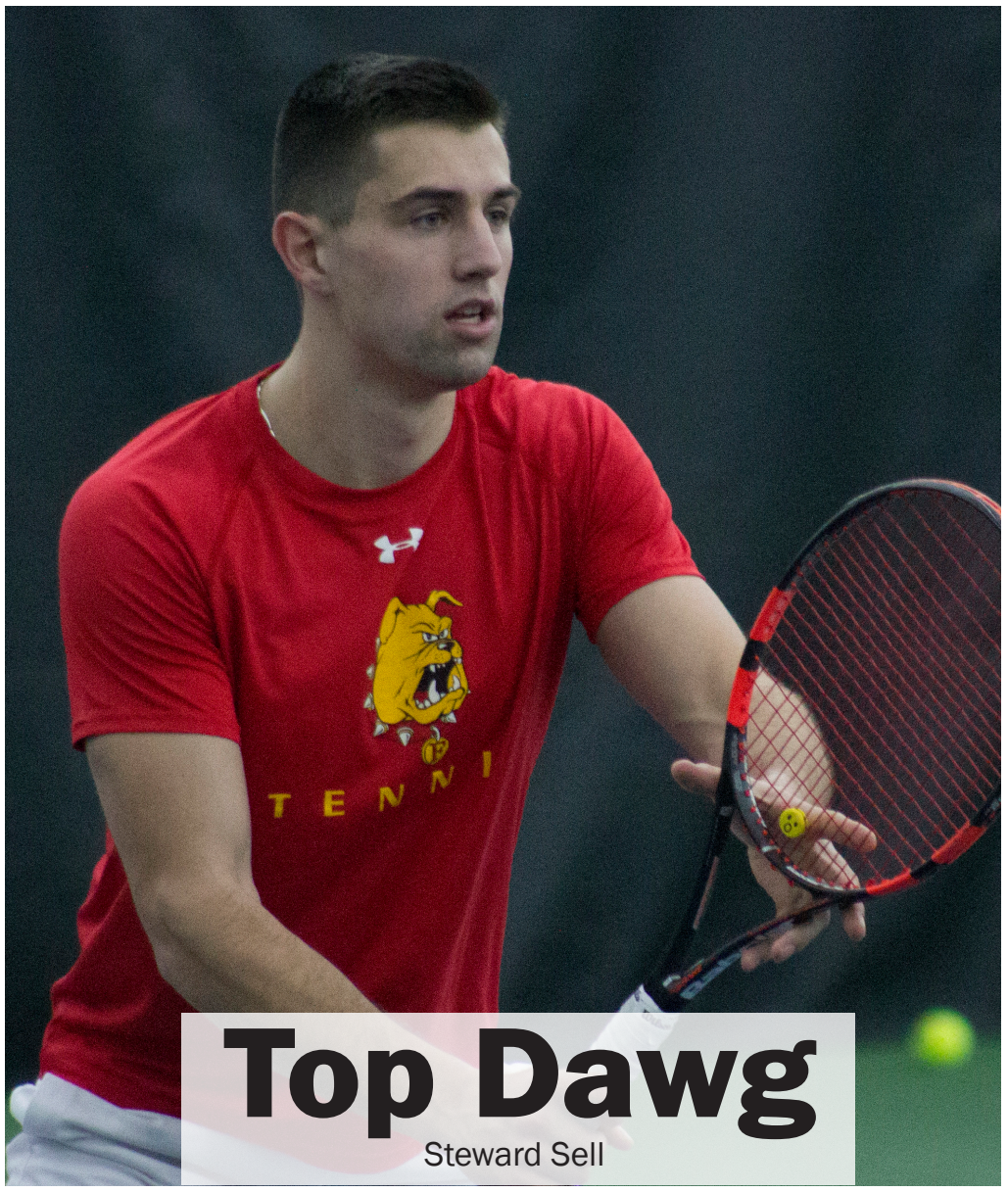
"Obviously everyone wants to win, but doing it the right way is more important," Ferris senior golfer Ryan Bayer said. "What that means is we want to represent the university to the best it can, and act as professional as possible because at the end of the day, there are way worse situations out there and we're traveling and just playing golf."

Along with three first place finishes as a team, individual golfers placed first for the final score during the duration of a tournament, including Ferris seniors Jack Weller, Seth Terpstra and Andrew Hammett. These seniors, along with the rest of the team, hope to compete well during regionals. They had a run two seasons ago, and a national championship appearance was one of their goals going into the season.

Ryan Bayer

"All of us on the team will say the same thing, that we will do anything we can do as an individual to help better the team," Bayer said.

The Bulldogs head back to the course Thursday, May 9, to compete in the NCAA Super Regional in Hot Springs, Arkansas.



Top Dawg

Steward Sell

Photo by: Will Holden | Position

Michael Reedy
Torch Reporter

With his stellar performance at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament, this week's Top Dawg is awarded to Ferris tennis senior Steward Sell.

The Bulldogs competed in the GLIAC tournament Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27, to see who would be crowned conference champions. With a victory Friday against the Ashland Eagles and another win Saturday against Grand Valley State University (GVSU), the Bulldogs took good position heading into the championship because of Sell.

With Sell competing in both singles and doubles, throughout the six games he played, he dropped only two. On the first day of competition against the Eagles, Sell was perfect on the day, winning his single match with set scores of 7-6 and 6-2. While paired with Ferris tennis senior Nur Adim Ramdani Iswan at doubles, they were able to win their set 6-4. This helped the Bulldogs earn the 4-3 victory to head into the semifinals.

Sell would see his first of two losses against GVSU with set scores of 6-5 and 6-4. Sell made up for the loss with another dominant doubles performance by himself and Iswan, this time beating their opponents in their set 6-3 to solidify a spot in the finals, final score: 4-2.

Ultimately losing to the Wayne State Warriors, Sell went 1-1 on the final day of competition and, just like in the semifinals, Sell dropped his singles match, but once he hit the court with Iswan, they were able to beat out their opponents 6-3, earning the pair a perfect on the weekend.

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OPINIONS

"I've poured my heart and soul into this newspaper, and I wouldn't have had it any other way." — *Megan Lewton — See below for story*

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Chat with the chief
Editor in Chief, Megan Lewton

Curtain call

Well, guys, this is it: my final column as editor in chief.

I can't believe this day has arrived. It seems like just yesterday I was excitedly preparing for this year, filling all my free time with job interviews and adding journalism books to my summer reading pile. And today, as I plan to transition out of this position, I am writing to say farewell.

A metaphorical curtain call, if you will.

When I first began at the Torch in April 2017, if you asked me if I would ever become editor in chief, I would have said, "Never in a million years." In fact, someone did ask me, and that was my response. I didn't know that I would ever advance further than a reporting position, and I especially never thought I would be at the top.

Since my initial hire, I think I've grown a lot as a person. I was once so timid, so afraid to reach out of my comfort zone for fear of failure. I didn't really like talking to new people and I rarely put myself in a position to do so. I didn't strive to do anything spectacular with my career, because I didn't think I could do it.

Now, so much has changed.

In my time as editor in chief, I learned that I'm good at a lot of things, and that I certainly have areas in which I need to improve. I discovered how difficult it is to lead a group of people and discipline when necessary – especially because I'm so close with many of my coworkers. When you work with some of the best people at Ferris, it's not easy to criticize them. Thus, I had to work harder to enforce my house rules, and I think I was successful in my endeavor.

I was also able to try new things creatively. I was featured on the Torchcast for the first time, in which I pulled an all-nighter in the Torch office in a spooky episode I dubbed "the Ghostcast." Additionally, I continued to report when I could, and I wrote features on some interesting people in the community. I only had a byline on a handful of large articles this year, but I am irrevocably proud of the ones I did write.

Saying goodbye is never easy, and I'm really bad at change. However, I know that I am leaving this position in good hands.

Before I go, there's a few people I'd like to thank.

For starters, thank you to my family for being so considerate throughout the year. You never complained when I locked myself in my room to write a breaking news story or copy edit, and I'm truly grateful for your support. Thank you for listening to me rant when necessary – even when I used a lot of journalism jargon that I know you don't understand – and for bragging about me endlessly to anyone who would listen. I love you guys.

Thank you to my coworkers for making this all so worth it. There are two in particular who have been there for me through thick and thin: Grant and Sarah. You gave me story ideas, helped me with production, accommodated my needs when I couldn't access the office for months because of my broken leg and gave me a good laugh when I needed it. I am so glad the Torch has brought me to you guys. I appreciate you both more than you know.

Thank you to our adviser, Steve Fox, for guiding me in the right direction throughout all of this. Maybe we didn't always agree, but I found comfort in your advice when I had to make some of the toughest decisions I've faced in my college career. I couldn't have done this without you.

Lastly, thank you to the readers. Thank you to those who regularly opened the papers in the stands on campus or clicked on our web links. Without you, none of this would be possible. I believe student media is critically important on any college campus – more than many may realize. We are all so thankful for your readership.

I've found a home under this little yellow header at the top of page 14 (or, on Tire Fire weeks, page 6). It will be strange to not write a column every week.

However, I still have one more semester at Ferris, during which I will fulfill the lifestyles editor and web supervisor positions at your favorite campus newspaper (hint: it's this one). So don't worry: you'll still be able to read my hot takes in the opinions section; it just won't be in the same location on the page.

I've poured my heart and soul into this newspaper, and I wouldn't have had it any other way. The smiles, the tears, the late nights, the bags under my eyes: they were all worth it.

So, this is my final bow. I am so honored to have served as editor in chief, and it was truly the greatest thing I've ever done. Hopefully this is just a stepping stone, but I will always cherish the time I've spent in our basement office of the Alumni Building.

Thank you for being here, and thank you for reading the Torch. I'll see you in the fall.

Now or never

An open letter to the new and old

Alicia Jaimes
Lifestyles Editor

As graduation rounds the corner, I'm filled with a feeling of excitement and a hint of regret.

You see, I've been working for the Torch for the past two and a half years and have loved every second of it. However, I can't help but kick myself when I think about how I could've spent the past four years here instead of two.

Being a freshman in college — as you may have read in a previous opinion of mine — filled me with a feeling of self-doubt. I didn't know what I wanted, and I let that paralyze me for a while.

It was until a previous editor in chief came into my journalism class that I first heard of the Torch.

"We are always looking for more people," was about the gist of the conversation.

I love writing. I always have. To potentially get paid to write and be published seemed like a dream come true. So, I leapt...

...I grabbed an application...

...I filled it out...

...and I never turned it in.

"Why would they want to hire me?" I'd ask myself. "What makes me think I'm good enough?"

The application sat on my desk for weeks, and eventually, got thrown out along with my dreams — in the trash.

It wasn't until I met with my adviser a few years later, when I needed a two-credit internship, that I had heard of the Torch again.

"The people are really nice," she said.

Now, with not only the want, but the need to visit their office, I decided to apply again. This time, I turned in my application.

After a short interview with their editor in chief at the time, I was accepted as an interim reporter for the remainder of the fall semester. This meant, yes, I worked for free, but I was able to get my name out there, in print, and share my ideas with people who had similar creativity.

Fast-forward to Wednesday, April 24, when I had my final meeting with them. Everyone was laughing and planning for the future, and I just sat back and enjoyed the view.

It was a fun time working my way up to lifestyles editor and having a chance to show myself that I have what it takes to work in this field.

Still, I can't help but kick myself thinking I could've discovered this passion sooner.

And with that, I'm thinking of those students who are new on campus and thinking about an RSO, a part in a play or an on-campus job they want to be a part of. I'm thinking of the students who will soon become graduates and are holding themselves back from applying to the job they want because they think, "Who am I to try?"

Never be afraid to try.

College is made to break boundaries, make mistakes, have fun and find a world outside of your comfort zone. Unfortunately, I let my own insecurities get in the way of that.

So, as a certified almost-college-graduate, I beg of you: try.

If not for me, then for the you you will soon be in the next few years, enjoying the view of where you'll be, thinking you could've been there sooner.

Marvel or DC?

Oh snap.

Rebecca Bostic
Managing Copy Editor

Which has better media properties, Marvel or DC? This question is common, especially with the "Avengers: Endgame" premiere Friday, April 26.

My answer: Batman. Other people: So, DC. Me: No. Batman.

Yes, I am far more familiar with the DC Universe than the Marvel Universe, but that's because DC characters are more memorable than Marvel characters. And do you want to know why? Because all of DC's characters are still alive.

Too soon? Too bad.

I will give 100% props to Marvel on their live-action movie execution. There is no doubt in my mind that Marvel has the upper hand in movie making, and has absolutely everything that DC lacks: amazingly choreographed fight scenes, consistent character tropes and storylines, and awesome soundtracks.

We don't talk about DC's "Suicide Squad" and "Justice League," OK?

"Suicide Squad" was Ben Affleck's attempt to wriggle more money from Warner Bros., and the only saving grace for "Justice League" was when Wonder Woman snapped Batman's shoulder back in place — because that's the only part of the movie I can remember.

DC also cannot hold down a character's storyline or characteristics across multiple movies. In the "Dark Knight" trilogy, Batman is a dark, mean character who needs to be acquainted with a few hundred gallons of salt water for whatever's messing with his throat. In "Batman v Superman" and "Justice League," Batman transitions from a violent vigilante to a suddenly light hearted character hanging in the background, getting all the punchlines and WILLINGLY BEING A PEOPLE PERSON BY CREATING THE JUSTICE LEAGUE joke.

Batman is not a people person. He said so in the animated "Justice League" series. Keep your stories consistent, DC, it's not that hard.

Speaking of animated series, DC gets a medal and Marvel gets a question mark. I don't think I've ever heard of an animated Marvel series, except for the comics that fans make on YouTube. DC managed to land phenomenal artists — apart from the fourth season of the animated "Batman" series; I have several questions for those artists — and even more amazing voice actors. Kevin Connelly is the BEST Batman voice actor, and if he could have spoken over Affleck for the live-action films, DC may have been that much better off. Also, Mark Hamill voices the best on-screen Joker ever portrayed.

What about comics? Marvel or DC? Let's look at comics on the basis of character variety and development. Between Marvel and DC, and the answer is obvious: DC.

Marvel takes its most famous characters, draws their names out of a hat, and that's how they get inspiration for their "new" characters. That, or they steal from DC's character concepts because DC's are better and original. Yes, I know: DC has a villain for Batman called the Condiment King who shoots ketchup and mustard. Originality? Yes. Necessity? Debatable.

I've seen far more depth in DC's characters and their development across comics, animated series and the few good live-action movies DC has made. Their characters aren't always gods and goddesses, people infused with magical powers, or people who stumble upon some powerful weapon or item that "becomes one with them."

Yes, that only narrows DC's character pool down to Batman, his protégés and Green Arrow but that's more than Marvel has — before or after "Infinity Wars."

DC's characters that aren't superhuman are just that more amazing because they're only human. Batman, his sidekicks and Green Arrow trained themselves to be as skillful and strong as they are; they worked their human bodies to conditions that the average person will never have the motivation to achieve; and for the love of Gotham, DC, stop giving your characters rubberized muscles and abs in places where people do not have muscles or abs!

There is more human attachment to the characters in DC. DC's characters have depths and tropes that make them relatable to kids, teens and even adults who need someone to look up. Marvel's characters are there for entertainment and to do cliché superhero things.

I answer Batman to the "Marvel or DC" question because he's a human being that pushed himself to become a "super human" — notice the intentional spacing there? — and prevent others from experiencing what he had to go through.

"Batman's a nutcase. Batman's a psychopath. Batman's more messed up than the Joker."

You really think you'd be any different if your parents were shot in front of you? You might not travel the world to learn multiple fighting styles or study every book on chemistry to come up with miraculous anecdotes to various ailments and poisons, but you'd be messed up.

So with all of this said, I ask again: Marvel or DC? The correct answer: On what grounds are we comparing them? Correct answer to the previous correct answer: Movies, comics and animated series.

My correct answer: Batman.

Give Ferris football the credit it deserves

Ferris has best football team in all of Michigan

Austin Arquette
Interim Reporter

The Ferris football team is the nation's most winningest program in Michigan and Division II football for the last five years regardless of division.

I believe that our football program here at Ferris can compete and win at the Division I level. If Ferris football was placed in the Mid-American conference in the West Division, they would be able to contend and win games just as they do now at the Division II level. The football program at Ferris has a long list of reasons to why they can compete and win in the Division I level.

Following an historic trip to the National Championship last year, where the Bulldogs became the national runner-up, the football program has kept a record of 60-8 throughout the course of five years. By getting to the National Championship game, the Bulldogs had a 15-1 season record, and those 15 wins matched the all-time NCAA record for total victories in a campaign.

Ferris football has also captured the GLIAC Championship in 2018 and won the Super Region Three title by winning their first four playoff games. The Bulldogs have claimed three conference championships, three undefaced seasons, two regional titles and reached the national quarterfinals three times. Ferris has also accumulated three Harlon Hill National Player of the Year trophies, two National Scholar Athlete of the Year for two student-athletes and 10 postseason wins.

The Bulldogs are one of the only four teams in all of college football at any NCAA level to have won 11 games in each of their seasons over the last five years. The other three teams to do so are Alabama, Ohio State and North Dakota State. Ferris is the only Division II team in the country that has reached the national quarterfinals for three years in a row and had five straight playoff appearances, which is the second longest streak in the nation. Ferris holds the GLIAC's best overall record of all 21 collegiate programs in Michigan with a 75-15 record since head coach Tony Annese arrived in 2012.

With these impressive stats and records, it shows to prove Ferris football can compete at the highest level and be able to win efficiently. By moving up to the Division I level, the Ferris football program would gain more exposure, more prestige and more popularity by bringing in numerous new students that would want to be a part of the university. Ferris would play the likes of Central Michigan, Western Michigan, State University of New York Buffalo, Ball State, University of Toledo, Northern Illinois University, Ohio University (Athens) and the University of Akron in the Mid-American Conference at the Division I level.

And they could win in this conference.

I believe that Ferris football is moving in the right direction and has every bit of potential to move up to play at the Division I level. They need the challenge. The football program is the most winningest program in all of Michigan and can continue that at the next level.

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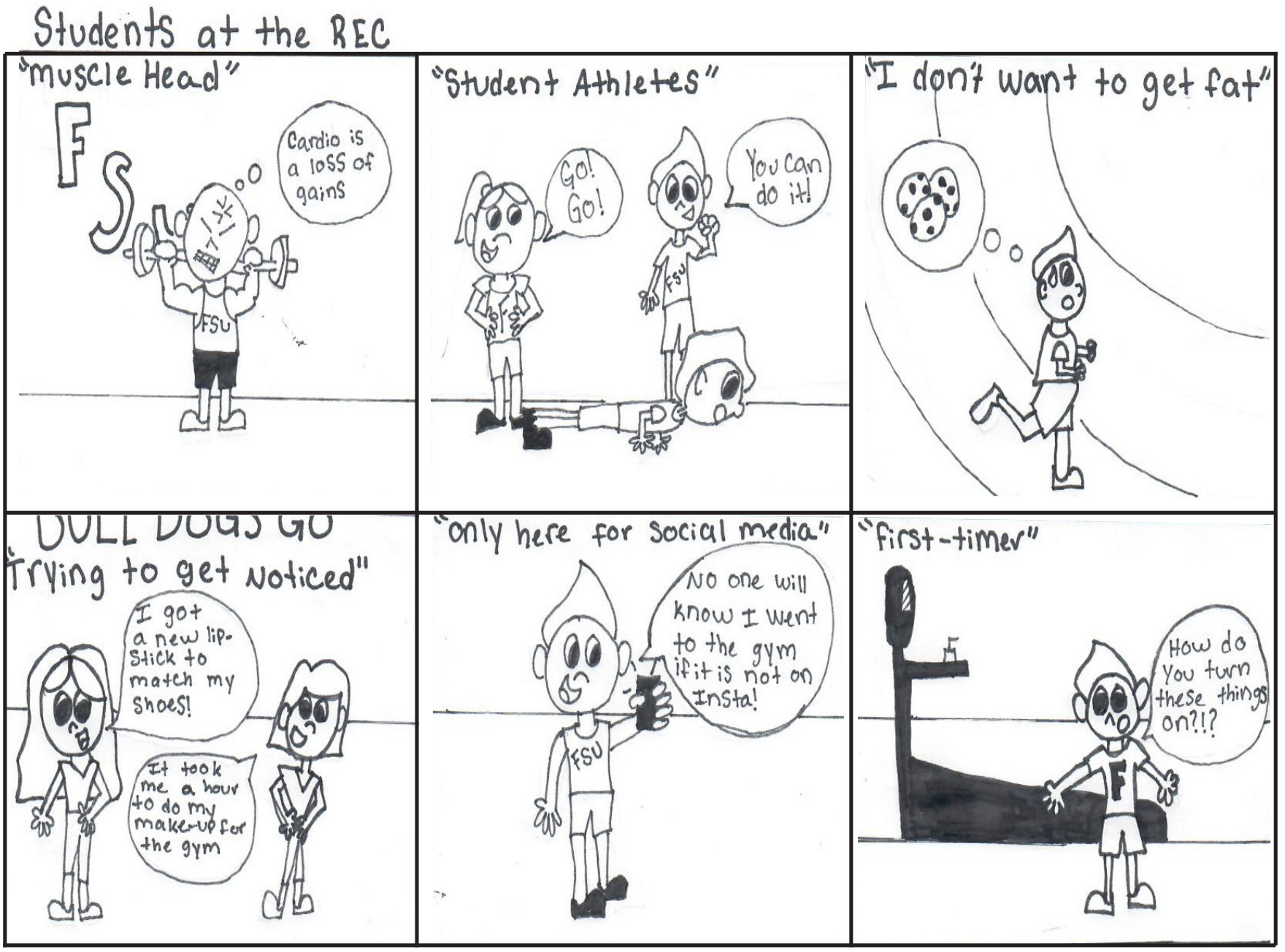
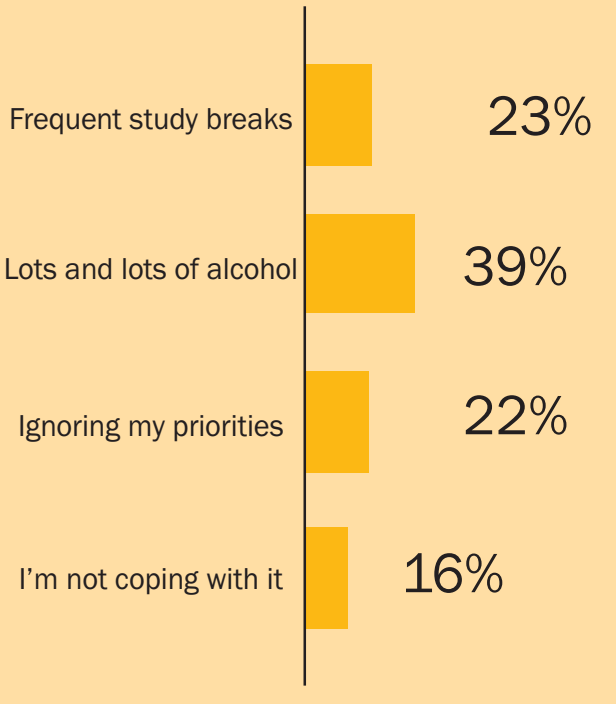


Cartoon by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

TORCH POLL RESULTS

How are you coping with the stress as finals week appoaches?

51VOTES



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