



**Ferris State University**  
**TORCH**  
*Truth, fairness and accuracy since 1931*

**HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE**

**ERASING BLACKBOARD**  
*Ferris recently began transitioning from Blackboard to Canvas. Read more about why the change was made and how it could benefit students and staff.*  
**NEWS | PAGE 5**

**DIVING RIGHT IN**  
*The Club Swim Team is entering their second season after students created it last year. Learn more about the team and what their goals are for this year.*  
**LIFESTYLES | PAGE 9**

# Homecoming comedian coming our Way(ans)

Marlon Wayans announced as Ferris homecoming comedian

**Meg Lewton**  
*Lifestyles Editor*

Actor, director and comedian Marlon Wayans will be performing at Ferris as part of the 2019 Homecoming Week.

Wayans is known for his performances in "White Chicks," the "Scary Movie" franchise, "A Haunted House" and "In Living Color." His most recent project is the Netflix original film "Sextuplets," which was released in August 2019.

The university made the announcement on social media Wednesday, Aug. 28.

The homecoming comedian performance will be 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, in Williams Auditorium.

In addition, Entertainment Unlimited will be hosting a competition Thursday, Sept. 12, to find a student comedian to open for Wayans.

Rush ticket sales will begin Tuesday, Sept. 3, for Ferris students. During this time, tickets will cost \$5 each, with a limit of one ticket per student. Students and community members will be able to buy multiple tickets beginning Monday, Sept. 16. At this point, they will cost \$15 each.

Tickets will be sold at the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) in University Center Room 120. Tickets will be sold Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets can be purchased with cash or card.



*Promotional Image*

Actor Marlon Wayans, known for his roles in "Scary Movie" and "White Chicks" will perform as Ferris' homecoming comedian Thursday, Sept. 26.

**Ticket Sales**

**Student rush:**

Tuesday, Sept. 3  
 \$5/ticket  
 max of 1 ticket

**Multiple ticket sales:**

Monday, Sept. 16  
 \$15/ticket  
 no max

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# NEWS

"Canvas was created on a new and more modern infrastructure, so it integrates much better with existing Ferris systems." - Amy Greene - See page 5 for story

Grant Siddall | News Editor | siddalg@ferris.edu

# Work study woes

## Ferris has approved an allotment to cover initial reduced work study funds

Abigail Wood  
Torch Reporter

Reduced work study allotment for the 2019-20 academic year left many students and employers without beneficial financial assistance but Ferris is now offering additional aid.

According to Ferris Student Employment and Financial Aid Advisor, John

Randle, the amount awarded was reduced due to budgetary issues. The university, for many years, had funded both an institutional work study program and matched a portion of what the federal government gives Ferris for Federal Work Study.

This year, after they reviewed their available funds, the portion Ferris spends on matching the Federal Work Study ended

up not being included in the initial model. In total, it amounted to \$240,000 based on 25% of the 2019-20 Federal Work Study allocation.

This reduced funding not only affects students, it affects university departments that rely on those students. Ferris President David Eisler, approved a one-time allotment to cover the 2019-20 year, so the Financial Aid office will begin

re-evaluating students' financial aid awards and awarding the additional work study.

The eligible recipients will be

determined based on the order their financial aid requirements were met.

It is anticipated that this will help restore funding to the previous levels. Because the allotment is one time only, it is unknown if this will be able to continue in the coming years.

One university department that is affected is the Racquet and Fitness Center. Facility Manager, Amy Nestle, said that with the current work study budget, departments like hers and others aren't able to offer as many job opportunities for students who use work study.

In years past, there have been nearly ten applicants for positions per semester, but only three were submitted this semester. Due to the work study reduction, Nestle has had to cut operational hours, balance the budget, and plan ahead what tasks the students are given.

Some students who were denied work study are still able to work, even without the work study. Nestle said that when she hires, she bases her decisions on work performance but the ones who are the most impacted by the reduction of work study are the students.

Ferris elementary education senior, Anna Palaske, is a student who has been affected. Palaske said that in the 2018-19 year, as well as the summer 2019 semester, she had been awarded work study. But for the 2019-20 year, she was denied. She has friends who in years past had work study awarded, but did not receive it this year.

The reduction has made it harder for students like herself to find jobs. She was able to keep her two jobs from last year, but had reduced hours at one job. Palaske said that if Ferris is going to reduce work study, the jobs that are offered shouldn't have to be work study and if there is less work study, there should be more department flexibility for non-work study students.



Torch File Graphic

## WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Meg Lewton  
Lifestyles Editor

### Hong Kong, China

High school students in Hong Kong arrived to their first day of school wearing gas masks and holding hands to form a human chain; college students held a strike while waving flags and chanting protest slogans. They did so to protest a bill that would allow Hong Kong residents to be deported to mainland China for trial. The protests have been occurring since June, but the government wanted the protests to end once the academic year began. Students are continuing to protest to show their opposition to the bill and ignore the government's wishes for it to end.

Original article by Tiffany May and Elaine Yu, Sept. 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

### The Bahamas

Hurricane Dorian hit the Bahamas with catastrophic results. The Category 4 storm is the strongest on record to hit the northwestern part of the Bahamas, with wind gusts

of up to 220 miles per hour. Prime Minister Hubert Minnis said 73,000 residents and 21,000 homes were at risk due to the hurricane and were advised to relocate. As the storm approaches the United States, officials in South Carolina and Georgia ordered residents to evacuate.

Original article by Elisabeth Malkin, Sept. 1, 2019. *The New York Times*.

### Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo

The yearlong Ebola outbreak in Congo has hit a "milestone," according to officials. To date, there have been more than 3,000 confirmed and probable cases and a death toll over 2,000. Health workers are struggling to control the spread of the disease, despite having an effective vaccine and treatments. The outbreak is the second-worst Ebola epidemic on record and is the 10th outbreak in Congo alone. The only worse outbreak happened between 2013 and 2016 in West Africa.

Original article by Reuters, Aug. 30, 2019. *The New York Times*.

## NEWS BRIEFS

Meg Lewton  
Lifestyles Editor

### Headphone Disco

Dancing into the weekend at the Headphone Disco 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6, in the North Quad. During the event, sponsored by Entertainment Unlimited, students will wear wireless headphones and will be able to choose the music they want to dance to, which will be played by various DJs. For more information, contact Entertainment Unlimited at (231) 591-2610 or EU@ferris.edu.

### B1G Alleyway Cleanup

Give back to the community during the third annual B1G Alleyway Cleanup 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 7. Participants will meet in the North Quad and will be given free pizza immediately following. For more information, contact Michele Albright at CLACS@ferris.edu.

### Beer, Booze and Books

Learn about how drinking alcohol can affect college students during Beer, Booze and Books 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, in Williams Auditorium. The event will be presented by Jim Matthews, the author of "Beer, Booze and Books: A Guide to College Drinking." For more information, contact Gretchen Ochs at (231) 591-3716.

# - ON THE RECORD -

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

## OK, McLOVIN

**Cora Hall**  
Sports Editor

### You really shouldn't be on the roads

June 27, 8:47 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Travis Circle for having an unreadable paper license plate in rear-view window. The driver didn't have proof of insurance and also had a restricted license. The officer cited the subject for not having insurance and violating her license restrictions.

### A lot going on here

July 11, 8:05 p.m., officers assisted the Michigan State Police (MSP) on a traffic stop at Northland Drive and 205th Street. A female passenger in the car they had stopped had a warrant out for her arrest and the Ferris Department of Public Safety officers arrested her for the warrant while MSP conducted an investigation of a drunk driver.

### OK, McLOVIN

July 14, 1:35 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle because of a headlight out on Perry Avenue. While conducting the traffic stop, the officer discovered the driver didn't have a license with him. The driver had an expired temporary learners permit and was cited for driving without a license.

### It was a good try

July 28, 9:56 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at family video and discovered the vehicle had no valid registration.

The driver was using a license plate from an old vehicle on the vehicle. The driver was issued an appearance ticket.

### Almost legal

Aug. 1, 12:15 p.m., it was reported that a worker from the cheer camp going on in town was smoking marijuana in their room at Pine Valley Suites. An officer went to check and the subject showed signs of being impaired from marijuana and was issued an appearance ticket for being a minor in possession of marijuana.

### We need a State Farm here I guess

Aug. 1, 9:57 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle on Northland Drive and Gilbert Road for having their high beams on and failing to dim them. The subject did not have insurance on the vehicle and was issued an appearance ticket.

### Turn the lights on

Aug. 5, 9:37 p.m., an officer made a traffic stop on State Street because there were no lights on a trailer a vehicle was hauling. The driver had no driver's license with him, though he had one, and the plates were expired as well. The officer cited him for operating without a license.

### Faulty plates

Aug. 12, 2:15 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle on Oak and State Street for having what appeared to be an expired license plate. The officer determined

the license plate was improper and confiscated the plate and cited the driver.

### There's bathrooms inside...

Aug. 25, 1:58 a.m., a man was cited for disorderly conduct for urinating on the side of the building outside of Star Shooters.

### Stay off the addy

Aug. 27, 7:03 p.m., officers responded to a report of marijuana odor in Cramer Hall. They made contact with the student and she did not have marijuana but she had prescription Schedule II narcotics. The student was not prescribed the medication and the medication was seized. Officers are seeking warrants since it was possession of Schedule II controlled substance.

### He is not in good hands

Aug. 29, 8:30 p.m., an officer was on traffic patrol and ran the plate of a vehicle and there were two warrants attached to the plate for the owner and one was out of the Mecosta County Court. The officer stopped the vehicle on Knollview and South Street and made contact and identified the driver as the owner. Upon further investigation, he discovered there was a third warrant out for the owner in Roseville for a house party. The officer arrested the driver on the spot for the Mecosta County Court's warrant for misdemeanor or traffic violation of driving without insurance.

# Alleged fight leads to former student's arrest

## Man arrested on misdemeanor and two felonies after allegedly beating girlfriend

**Cora Hall**  
Sports Editor

A former Ferris student was arrested on Monday, Aug. 26, after an alleged altercation with his girlfriend, who is a current Ferris student.

Deyonte Evans was arraigned on three charges including unlawful imprisonment, aggravated domestic violence and felonious assault by strangulation. While aggravated domestic violence is a misdemeanor, the other two charges are felonies and if convicted, Evans could face up to 26 years in prison.

According to the police report, Evans and the alleged victim initiated an argument in West Campus Apartments about relationship issues when Evans allegedly assaulted the victim. Besides punching and kicking, it also states that he strangled the victim to the point that the blood vessels in her eyes burst and left a bite mark so severe on her lip it required 13 stitches.

When officers arrived, Evans was arrested immediately and is currently in jail on a \$150,000 bond. Evans' probable cause hearing will be held 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Updates to this story will be made on our website as new information becomes available.



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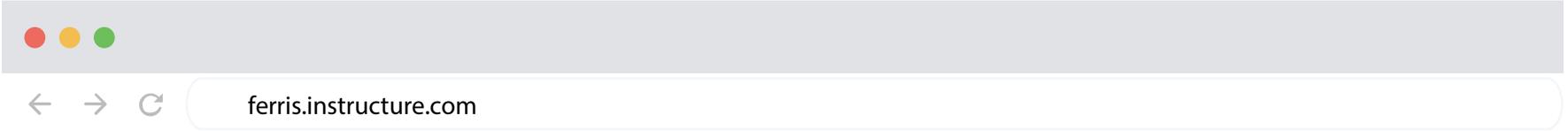
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# Erasing Blackboard

Ferris' change to Canvas from Blackboard is met with optimism and some confusion



**Elizabeth Norvey**  
Torch Reporter

After 14 years of Blackboard, Ferris has chosen to transition to a new learning management system.



Amy Greene

The decision to replace Blackboard was made by a review board of 34 faculty members who reviewed several Learning Management Systems before choosing Instructure's Canvas to succeed Blackboard.

"Ferris State University has been using Blackboard for 14 years and since our contract expires at the end of June 2020, it was the perfect time to complete a comprehensive review of the most popular Learning Management Systems (LMS) available," Ferris' Executive Director for Online Learning at Ferris, Amy Greene, said.

"With this in mind, a committee of faculty representing every college at the university organized an LMS review last fall. As part of this process the committee tested Blackboard's Ultra, D2L's Brightspace and Instructure's Canvas. The committee also solicited feedback from Ferris students through surveys distributed during open sessions for each LMS. After the votes were tabulated, Canvas was chosen by faculty and students to be the new LMS for Ferris."

A variety of factors aimed at benefiting students and staff were considered when it came to the switch.

"Canvas was created on a new and more modern infrastructure, so it integrates much better with existing Ferris systems. That means fewer glitches and errors. Canvas also places special emphasis on ease-of-use, faculty and student access,

and a robust student app. In addition, Canvas also provides 24-hour support for faculty, staff, and students. They don't have quotas for calls, have no time-limits for addressing problems or answering questions, and are actually fun to talk to," Greene said.

"Basically, Canvas has better customer service, is newer, and works better with the systems already in place at Ferris," Greene explained.

The switch to Canvas hasn't been a completely smooth one, though.

While Greene said that the switch was a "cost-neutral" one, it will take time to completely transition Learning Management Systems. Over the course of the next year, students may have classes using either Blackboard or Canvas, so they have to make sure that they're paying attention to both systems.

"Over 80% of all courses at Ferris use the LMS in some capacity," Greene said. "In an effort to minimize frustration and maximize user-experience, the eLearning Department decided to implement a 3-semester transition to Canvas. This timeline allows for faculty and student training, realistic support services for faculty migrating content, and personal and professional preferences for how to handle the transition."

This may be causing some headaches to students and professors alike, however it will likely be better for Ferris in the long run.

"I don't know a lot about [Canvas]" Ferris Associate Professor of Creative Writing Jon Taylor said, "I haven't tried it yet..."

As for students, some are finding the mix of systems a bit confusing, particularly for new freshmen.

"I'd prefer to have everything to be all on one system...[it's] less confusing when everything is in one place," Ferris Construction Management freshman Bailey Woodruff said. "I have classes on both. I'd rather they all be on one."

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# Keeping it clean

BIG Alleyway Cleanup is working to keep Big Rapids clean

**Elizabeth Norvey and Grant Siddall**  
Torch Reporter and News Editor

Students at Ferris are reaching out to help the community by getting ready for another year of the BIG Alleyway Cleanup.

Improper maintenance of alleyways is a problem that leaves those alleyways more likely to attract animals that can leave behind health hazards and contain unsafe objects someone has thrown out, like broken glass or food which can form mold and create more health hazards. Organizations at Ferris are looking to combat these issues and provide community service with the annual BIG Alleyway Cleanup.

"The BIG Alleyway Cleanup is an annual activity in which Ferris students go out into the Big Rapids community to pick up debris and ensure that our alleyways are safe," Ferris Coordinator of Career and Volunteer Center for Leadership (CLACS), Michele Albright said.

The event, which takes place on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 10 a.m. to 12

Cleanup | see page 5

## Torch Corrections

Did we make a mistake?  
Let us know!

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



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

American Marketing Association members gave back to the community during last year's BIG Alleyway Cleanup. This year's event will be Saturday, Sept. 7.

**Cleanup**

Continued from page 4

p.m. throughout Big Rapids, aims to clean up Big Rapids' alleyways, helping residents avoid health hazards and making Big Rapids a safe and clean place to live.

"This year's event is co-sponsored by the CLACS Volunteer Center, Student Government Association, American Marketing Association, Sigma Lambda Beta, Pi Kappa Alpha, and Bulldog Sustainability Alliance," Albright said.

For many students and organizations the event is an opportunity to earn volunteer hours, while also being treated with lunch.

"Student Volunteers will check in near Rankin Circle drive at the University Center before 10 a.m. From there, they will sign a waiver and be sent with a team to one of the alleyways near campus with gloves, bags, and buckets. Students will report back when finished and be treated to pizza," Albright said.

Additional information, including sign up information can be found on Bulldog Connect.



Michele Albright

Volunteer Center, Student Government Association, American Marketing Association, Sigma Lambda Beta, Pi

Kappa Alpha, and Bulldog Sustainability Alliance," Albright said.

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# LIFESTYLES

"You never find a closer family than you do in swimming."  
- Nicholas Berchert - See page 9 for story

Meg Lewton | Lifestyles Editor | lewtonm1@ferris.edu

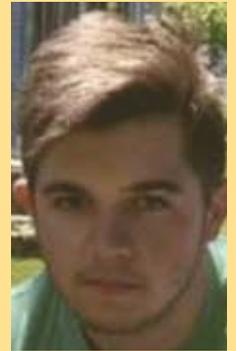
## Finding your niche



What's your favorite part about being in an RSO?

**Marissa Russell**  
Torch Reporter

"Definitely the community of the members. Each year is a little different, but we always grow closer through our events and fundraisers, and it's nice having such a diverse group with a common interest. We're pretty rad and the only requirement to join is that you love the outdoors."



**Ferris product design engineering technology junior and Outdoor Club member Jeff Madison**



"My favorite part about being in an RSO is the amount of people I have met. Sports Careers is like a family, and we all work together to help each other succeed. Sports Careers RSO is the best club to join if you are interested in a career in sports. We provide networking opportunities, plan special events and work together to gain experience in the field."

**Ferris sports communication senior and Sports Careers President Jared Ozella**

"The people I meet and the connections I make. AMA not only helps me prepare for life after graduation but gives me opportunities every week to meet new people and make new friends."

**Ferris marketing junior and American Marketing Association President Emily Charles**



"Having a community that I feel comfortable expressing myself in, and the RSO itself is about something I'm passionate about, so I know I'll be able to help others who need these kinds of resources. We are open to more than just Hispanic/Latino students. One of our main focuses is to bring awareness of our culture and others."

**Ferris human resource management junior and Hispanic Student Organization Vice President Edith Moreno**

"My favorite part about our RSO is the variety of things we get to partake in. We go on agency tours, we volunteer at different events and places, and we hold fundraisers. The people in the group are great to work with, too."

**Ferris public relations senior and Public Relations Student Society of America President Rylee Davis**



## Making a new home away from home

**Marissa Russell**  
Torch Reporter

Moving away is one of the scariest things that happens when beginning adulthood.

Starting up a registered student organization (RSO) on campus is one way students are making themselves feel more at home.

Currently, there are about 220 RSOs on campus. However, if you cannot find the right RSO for you, you can always create your own.

Ferris Coordinator of Activities and Student Organizations Nicholas Smith is the person to talk to about starting up a new RSO. Smith said he gets about 15 to 20 applications a year for new RSOs, although it does vary.

To start an RSO, the group must have at least five students and an advisor. Smith said the potential group would



Nicholas Smith

have to make a constitution and do a short presentation to the Student Leadership and Activities Advisory Council (SLAAC). SLAAC is the group that recommends the approval for new RSOs.

"Most groups that go through the process of meeting and presenting to SLAAC get approved," Smith said.

"There are probably another five or six each that do go that far in the process and just fizzle out."

Ferris offers all kinds of RSOs, from language clubs — like French and Spanish — to athletic clubs — like Sports Careers and Soccer — to career clubs — like American Marketing Association and Public Relations Student Society of America. RSOs usually hold meetings every week or every two weeks. RSOs will hold events on campus, like Battle of the Bands or Super Smash Bros competition.

Joining an RSO also helps students get connected to future employers and get started on job searches. RSOs can also be just for fun. The Running Club strictly meets up to run around Big Rapids and prepare for upcoming races. The Outdoor Club meets up to talk about different camping trips, among other things.

However, RSOs must stay up to date to keep their status.

- Nicholas Smith

"RSOs need to update their profiles each semester," Smith said. "They also need to maintain an accurate constitution and complete a few different trainings each year or semester."

To look through all the RSOs Ferris offers, visit Bulldog Connect through MyFSU. For more information about starting up an RSO, contact Nicholas Smith at nicholassmith@ferris.edu.

# Full-time student with a part-time job

## The benefits of working on campus

**Lillian Brown**  
 Torch Reporter

Can college students keep their work up and make money in school? The answer is yes, of course, but it can be complicated at times. There have been many Ferris students that choose to work off-campus, and sometimes it's a good option for people. However, some off-campus jobs will not be as understanding about college schedules as jobs on campus.

"Working on campus is a great opportunity to gain the skills that will help you be successful. Campus jobs are often more flexible and understanding with your class schedule. You can make friends and gain mentors through choosing to stay on campus," Career and Volunteer Centers Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) Coordinator Michele Albright said.



Michele Albright

There are tons of opportunities on campus, but there are always more options for those with work-study. To receive work-study, students must opt into the program while filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It is meant to help towards students' financial aid and employers.

"When you fill out FAFSA each year, you should check the work-study option. This may give you an advantage in locating a campus job, as work-study jobs are supported by federal aid and do not come from the employing department budget. However, there are also a lot of jobs available that do not require work-study," Albright said. "It is important to keep in mind that the money earned is paid as a regular paycheck to you, and therefore will need to be budgeted and applied towards your tuition and expenses."

Many on-campus employers were present at the Student Employment Fair Tuesday, Aug. 27. Some of these employers include the Academic Support Center, Catering, Education Counseling and Disability Services, Ferris Athletics, LGBTQ+ Resource Center and Williams Auditorium, among many others.

Another benefit to working on-campus is that taxes are not as roughly taken out of paychecks. This means more money in students' pockets.

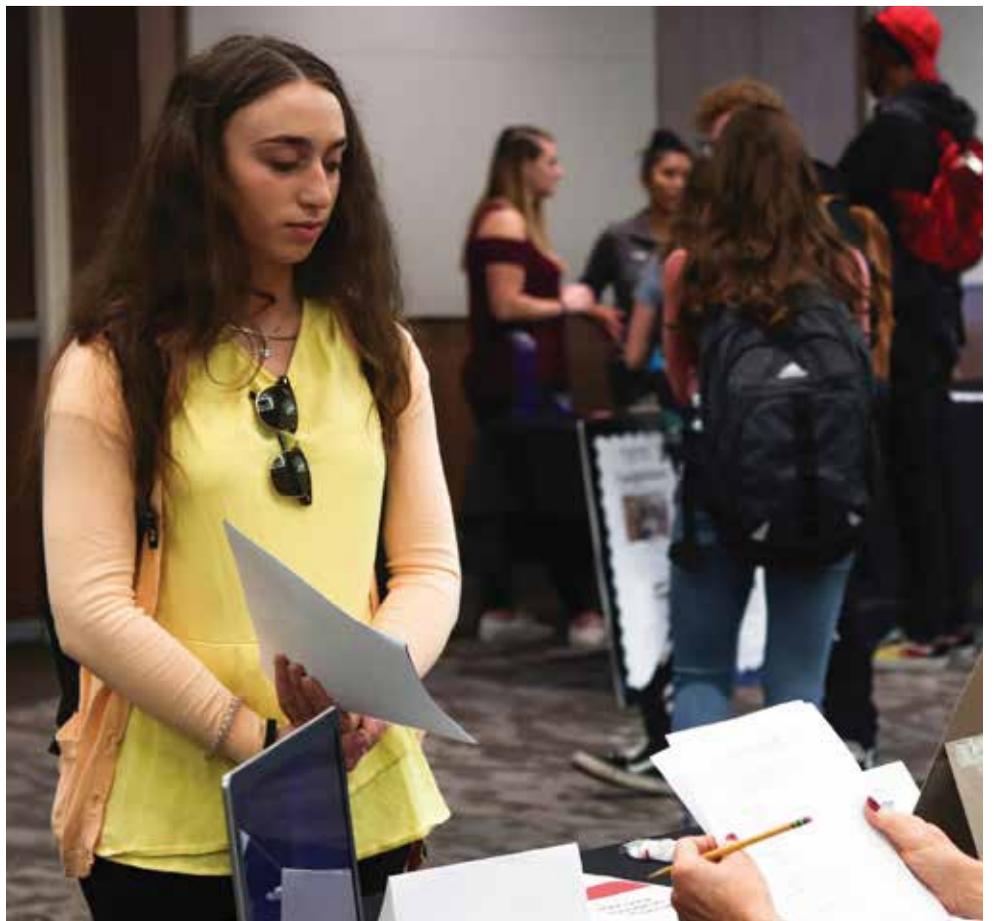
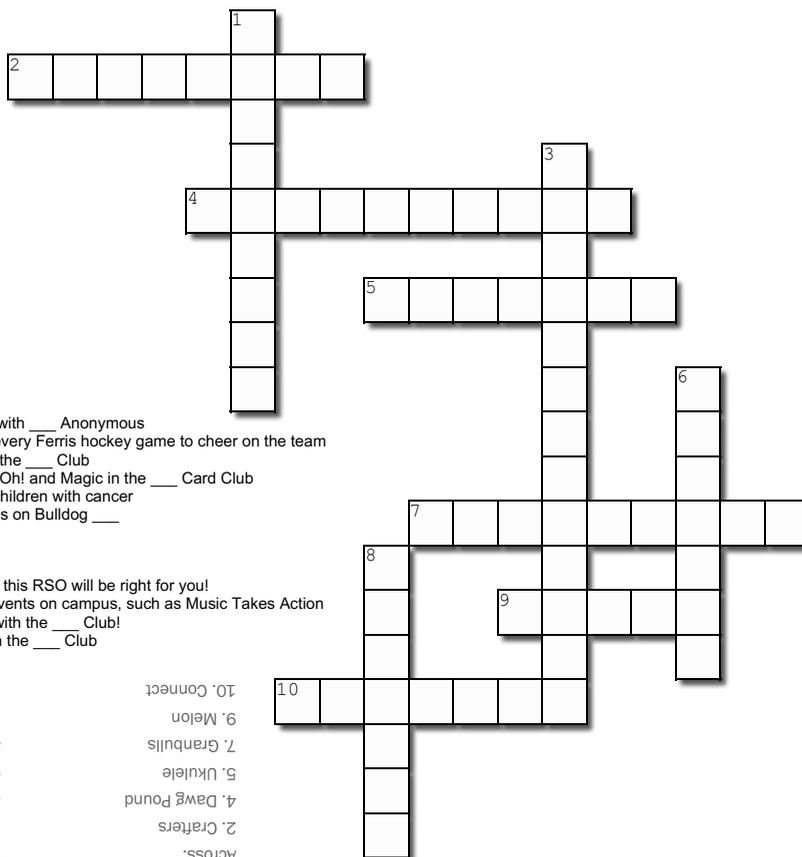


Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Noah Strickland spoke with on-campus employers at the Student Employment Fair Tuesday, Aug. 27.

## You R SO joining a club

Learn more about registered student organizations by solving this crossword



**Across**

- 2. Make something new with \_\_\_\_ Anonymous
- 4. The \_\_\_\_ attends every Ferris hockey game to cheer on the team
- 5. Play some music with the \_\_\_\_ Club
- 7. Play Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh! and Magic in the \_\_\_\_ Card Club
- 9. Love Your \_\_\_\_ helps children with cancer
- 10. Find a full list of RSOs on Bulldog \_\_\_\_

**Down**

- 1. Love animals? Maybe this RSO will be right for you!
- 3. \_\_\_\_ Unlimited hosts events on campus, such as Music Takes Action
- 6. You won't 'strike' out with the \_\_\_\_ Club!
- 8. Get your cardio in with the \_\_\_\_ Club

Crossword Answers

- 1. PetSavers
- 2. Crafters
- 3. Entertainment
- 4. Dawg Pound
- 5. Ukulele
- 6. Bowling
- 7. Granbolls
- 8. Running
- 9. Melon
- 10. Connect

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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.*

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# Sports galore



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Members of the women's club volleyball team recruited new members at Rec Fest Monday, Aug. 26.

## An activity for everyone

**Veronica Mascorro**  
Torch Reporter

This year's annual Rec Fest was held on Monday, Aug. 26 in the Student Rec Centre. With free food and games everywhere, students were exposed to the different intramural and club teams.

According to the Ferris intramural and club sports website, intramural sports are leagues that generally last four weeks with one game per week and a tournament at the end of the four-week season. On the contrary, club sports are university-recognized student organizations that are student-run and student-funded. Typically, the clubs are year-round and compete in inter-collegiate competitions on local, regional and national scales.



Baylee Edwards

With 31 clubs that vary from club fishing to baja racing, Ferris nearly has it all.

But for those who are interested in a sport that isn't offered, the process of making your own club isn't too difficult.

"They must gather five students - including themselves - and an advisor that is also interested in the same club sports, submit an application and fill out the necessary paperwork to the Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services (CLACS), then they must present in front of Student Leadership and Activities Advisory Council Committee. If approved, you will receive a letter of confirmation, a Bulldog Connect

profile and a mentor. If your RSO is not approved, a CLACS rep will instruct you on how you may be able to reapply," Ferris biology and medical laboratory technology senior and Club Sports Vice President Baylee Edwards said.

Edwards said club sports are a great way to get involved on campus.

"Some of the perks for students can vary from meeting new friends, staying active and playing the sport that a student may love to play, or could learn a new one," Edwards said. "They can be involved in the community through volunteer events, and a way to be competitive and release built up stress."

For those who aren't interested in a club sports, intramurals are always an option.

Ferris pharmacy senior and Intramural Supervisor Veronica Mills said any student can participate in an intramural regardless of skill level.

"Intramurals are perfect for students that want to be involved with a sport but do not want to commit to a lot of time or money, because intramurals are only about an hour a week and only about \$16 per sport," Mills said.

Ferris criminal justice junior James Stacks is a member of the Club Rugby team and encourages other students to join club sports, as well.

"You get to meet a lot more people, you get to travel a lot and you meet a lot more people outside of Big Rapids, which is really nice because this town isn't always the funnest," Stacks said. "It's not fun to sit around the dorm at all times. You've got to go out and experience college."

To get involved with a club or intramural sports, students can look out for club tryouts or sign up for an intramural online through MyFSU and get friends to make a team, or you can sign up as a free agent and teams that need players can select students for their team.

# TORCH TUNES

## The Big Sad



Meg Lewton  
Lifestyles Editor

### Far From Home - Five Finger Death Punch

Perhaps you didn't expect to see a metal band on my list? "Far From Home" is one of my favorites from the band. Lead singer Ivan Moodey has such a rich voice that compliments the lyrics. It is still certainly a rock song, but it is toned down and has so much emotion in it.

Favorite lyric: "All the places I've been and things I've seen. A million stories that made up a million shattered dreams."

### Save Rock and Roll - Fall Out Boy

You know, I couldn't even tell you why I cry during this song; it kind of just happens. I've seen Fall Out Boy perform this song live and it stirred up a lot of emotions that come out every time it's played since then. If you've ever listened to Fall Out Boy, you know the meaning to their songs are often quite ambiguous. However, I've interpreted it to be a song about rebellion, doing what you want to and what you know is right. Pete Wentz once said in an interview that the song promotes rock and roll as a mindset, rather than a genre, and I think it's spot on. Plus, the pairing of Fall Out Boy and Elton John gives me chills.

Favorite lyric: "I've cried tears you'll never see, so f-ck you, you can go cry me an ocean and leave me be."

### Dear John - Taylor Swift

Maybe your reason to cry is an ex. Or, maybe it's not, but you're in the mood to cry about the exes that have screwed you over. Trust me, I've been there. Taylor Swift is the queen of breakup songs, and "Dear John" just hits differently. The song is nearly seven minutes long, but every second is worth listening to. It makes me reminisce on young love and first heartbreak, which is bound to make you feel a little bit sad, even if it's been years and you're 1000% over it.

Favorite lyric: "Maybe it's me and my blind optimism to blame, or maybe it's you and your sick need to give love and take it away."

Now that the semester is in full swing and everyone is balancing group projects with exams with work with a social life, I know what you want to do...

You want to cry.

I'm the biggest crier ever; ask anyone. I cry when I'm happy, sad, scared or angry. I recently cried at a video of a raccoon stuck in a vending machine. Just about anything will set me off.

Sometimes, you need a good cry. And sometimes, when you're crying, you need a good playlist to go with it.

Here are some songs that almost always get me teary-eyed and help me let it all out.

### Leave the City - Twenty One Pilots

It doesn't matter how great of a mood I'm in: if this song comes on, it's going to bum me out (but in the best way). "Leave the City" is real, touching and raw. Twenty One Pilots is known for making music about mental illness and suicide, and this one is no exception. It talks about wanting to die, but choosing life instead. It gives me chills and makes me feel so many emotions. If you want to cry, start with this song and you won't be dry-eyed for long.

Favorite lyric: "Though I'm far from home, in Trench, I'm not alone."

### Cecilia and the Satellite - Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness

This song gets me emotional in a different way. Andrew McMahon wrote the song when he and his wife were expecting their first child. In it, he maps out his life thus far while also saying what he wants for his daughter's life. I don't have any children, but I still find this song relatable. I have some really close loved ones in my life that I would give anything for to ensure they have the best life. That's what this song is really about.

Favorite lyric: "For all the things my hands have held, the best by far is you."

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## Events calendar



### Tuesday

Sept. 3

**FSU Theatre Auditions:  
The Musical 9 to 5**  
Location: Williams Auditorium  
Time: 6:30 - 10 p.m.

### Wednesday

Sept. 4

**LGBTQ+ Resource Center  
Coffeehouse Kickoff**

Location: LGBTQ+ Resource Center  
Time: 4 - 6 p.m.

**Bulldog Bonanza**

Location: UC  
Time: 4 - 7 p.m.

**FSU Theatre Auditions:  
The Musical 9 to 5**

Location: Williams Auditorium  
Time: 6:30 - 10 p.m.



### Thursday

Sept. 5

**Blues and BBQ Football Tailgate**  
Location: North Quad  
Time: 5:30 - 7:15 p.m.

**FSU Theatre Auditions:  
The Musical 9 to 5**  
Location: Williams Auditorium  
Time: 6:30 - 10 p.m.

### Friday

Sept. 6

**Study Abroad Information Workshop**

Location: IRC 104  
Time: 1 - 2 p.m.

**Jobs - n - Java**

Location: CLACS Lobby  
Time: 2 - 5 p.m.

**Headphone Disco**

Location: North Quad  
Time: 9 - 11 p.m.



### Saturday

Sept. 7

**B1G Alleyway Cleanup**  
Location: North Quad  
Time: 10 a.m. - noon



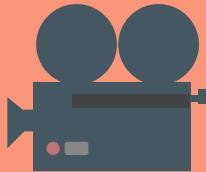
### Monday

Sept. 9

**Documentary and Discussion :**

**Venus Boyz**

Location: LGBTQ+ Resource Center  
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.



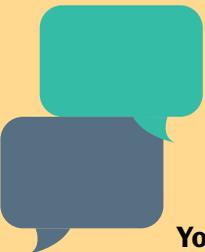
### Tuesday

Sept. 10

**OMSS: Native Student Welcome**  
Location: SCI 223  
Time: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Communication with  
Your Professor and Other Strangers**

Location: SCI 102  
Time: 11 - 11:50 a.m.



For more events, check out [calendar.ferris.edu](http://calendar.ferris.edu)

# Diving right in



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris dental hygiene freshman Tylee Knieper swims laps during the Club Swim Team tryouts. This is the team's second season after students created the club last year.

## A splashing time with the Club Swim team

**Veronica Mascorro**  
Torch Reporter

After learning there wasn't a swim team at Ferris, psychology senior and Club Swim Team Vice President Emily Kemp knew she had to start one.

"I started a rowing team at my high school, so I was like, 'OK, if I can start a varsity high school sport, I can start a club sport at Ferris,'" Kemp said.

Kemp has been swimming competitively since she was five and her love for the sport has never died.

"It's really a fun, loving community. Everyone really accepted us because it was our first year," Kemp said. "We were all friends and weren't really competitors because everyone was focused on having a fun time."

Kemp also noted that the environment in college swim differs significantly from high school swim.

"High school swim is a lot more strict. Not only are the cut times faster for high school, but college swim is a lot more lenient," Kemp said. "Whenever we go to swim meets, people are wearing crazy swimsuits; they're wearing pizza or American flag swimsuits, no one had a strictly competitive team suit that they wear. Ferris was actually one of the only teams that we saw that had a team suit from the teams that we competed against last year."

Kemp couldn't have done the work all by herself, though. Ferris welding engineering technology junior and Club Swim Team President Nicholas Berchert was also a key player in the creation of the team.

"Over the fall and winter of last year, it developed to where we went from having three people to six people

to 20 people to 25 people over the end of the year who were competing competitively," Berchert said.

Berchert also enjoyed being able to bond with his teammates.

"You never find a closer family than you do in swimming," Berchert said. "You stare at a black line for thousands and thousands of yards just to compete for a minute, so they all know the pain and suffering one goes through just to get better."

Even at meets, the family environment and encouragement never end.

"When you look up during a breaststroke and see 20 people at the end of your lane cheering you on, there's no feeling like it," Berchert said.

A big goal for the swim team this year is to go to nationals in Greensboro, North Carolina. They've had quite a few people who qualified but were unable to attend because they hadn't paid their dues since they were a first-year team, which is the first thing they plan on doing this year.

Ferris welding engineering and automotive management senior Michael Krueger said it wasn't difficult to manage being on the team and going to class.

"This is actually the second club that I'm a part of, and between classes and the two clubs, it hasn't been too hard to balance," Krueger said.

Students who are interested in joining the swim team can contact Berchert at [berchen@ferris.edu](mailto:berchen@ferris.edu).



Nicholas Berchert

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# SPORTS

“My number one mission is to do whatever I have to do to help our team win.”  
- Travis Russell - See page below for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

## Reigning MVP sitting out

Senior quarterback Travis Russell gets the nod for the first game of 2019



**Cora Hall**  
Sports Editor

Last year's Harlon Hill Trophy winner Jayru Campbell will not be starting in Ferris' home opener against Findlay and may not even start their second game, according to head coach Tony Annese.

After surgery this offseason on his non-throwing arm, the senior quarterback sitting the bench on Thursday, Sept. 5, is a precautionary move. Campbell's been cleared for full contact for a while now, but the coaching staff isn't taking any chances with the high expectations of returning to the national championship this season.

Campbell is in Annese's ear, though, itching to get back on the field. But he claims he trusts Annese's decisions in regard to how much he plays.

"I know Coach Annese is the type of guy, he wants to do what's best for you and what's best for the team, so we've had our conversations about getting reps and just how practice goes and things like that but I'm definitely in his ear, though," Campbell said.

Campbell's original elbow injury happened when he was in eighth grade attempting to dunk a basketball and he fell on his hand first. He said he immediately knew something was wrong.

"I wanted to go to the hospital but ... my dad, he was a hard parent as far as toughing it out and stuff like that, you know, I just had to deal with it. I think I went to practice maybe two days later, even though I was complaining about it," Campbell said. "Eventually I learned how to deal with it. The first couple days it obviously was hurting way worse than the rest of the years but I learned how to deal with it. I remember even doing curls with a dumbbell and just was struggling and I knew it didn't feel right."

After playing with a bad elbow for nearly a decade and having it reinjured at the end of last season, Campbell finally had surgery this offseason and said he can already feel the difference.

"I definitely can tell the difference, doing pull-ups, doing push-ups," Campbell said. "I can tell the difference in my structure and I'm just looking forward to seeing how it'll help me out and I'm looking forward to using it, kind of like a kid getting a toy, almost."

The Bulldogs are in more than capable hands, however, with senior quarterback Travis Russell starting and a possible appearance by junior quarterback Evan Cummins. Russell started without missing a beat against Northwest Missouri State in the second round of the playoffs last season when Campbell was out due to his injury. Annese doesn't even consider Russell a backup at this point.

"You can't even call him a backup,

he's legitimately a great player," Annese said. "He's been extraordinary for us, really from the beginning, so it's incredible to have not only such a great player, but such a high character leader and someone who drives the team every day."

Russell graduated in May and had the opportunity to be a graduate transfer and play somewhere else, but he said there's no one he'd rather play with than his team.

"My number one mission is to do whatever I have to do to help our team win. If they need me to block, I'll block. If they need me to start, I'll start. If they need me to sweep the floors, I'll sweep the floors. I love the guys on this team and that's the main reason I decided to come back is because I'm here to serve them and do whatever I can to help us win," Russell said. "There's no one else I'd rather play with when I strap up my helmet on Saturdays. These are the guys I want next to me."

Don't be surprised to see appearances from Cummins, either. At six foot three inches and 230 pounds, Cummins is a very physical runner according to Annese.

"I love Evan Cummins so ... his skills are as good as anybody's. His arm's live, his running ability is live, last year he scored two touchdowns in the playoffs," Annese said. "He just came on, came on, came on and so I've gotta use him, I've gotta use him as an athlete. He brings something different than what Jayru and Travis bring, so I gotta roll with him some. It'll

be interesting how we can transition from maybe play-to-play or possession-to-possession or however we're going to do it but he's gonna be in there for sure."

Whether or not Cummins and Russell go in to take more runs, Annese made it clear that play calling will adjust to be a little more cautious with how many runs Campbell takes throughout the season.

"We — as everybody knows — we've led the nation with quarterback rush yards each of the last seven years," Annese said. "We've got a huge dual-threat quarterback situation to the degree that we sometimes put our quarterbacks' bodies in peril a little bit. We're gonna be more careful."

However, Campbell's mindset isn't changing much and he said the injury from last year and his rehab won't affect his decision making on the field.

"(In) football, you can't be out there second guessing yourself and overthinking," Campbell said. "You just gotta go off reactions and just roll with the punches. You can't be out there second guessing and I'm definitely not trying to do that."



Travis Russell



Jayru Campbell



Tony Annese

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris junior quarterback Jayru Campbell sat out the first week of practice after rehabilitating his elbow all summer, but started getting reps the second week of camp.

# The fight between the posts



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris sophomore goalkeeper Taryn Meiste will likely be a rotational player for the Bulldogs this year, though she has to battle it out with two senior goalkeepers.

## Starting position up in the air with five goalkeepers on the roster



Brendan Samuels  
Torch Reporter

Position battles are heating up as a new season begins for Ferris women's soccer and none seem more intriguing than the goalkeepers.

Former head coach Andy McCaslin must have heavily valued the position, seeing as he left head coach Greg Henson with five options on the roster.

Depth at any position is nice, but five players at one position seems like a bit of overkill, and I'm sure the rest of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) agrees. In fact, out of the 10 teams in the GLIAC that have a women's soccer program, Ferris is the only school with more than four goalkeepers.

"Competition breeds success," Henson said. "It's good for us because we can utilize them in many different ways in training and having that type of quality at that position allows us to compete not only game-to-game but also practice-to-practice."

The Bulldogs used only three of the five goalkeepers on the roster in 2018, as now-seniors Alison Chesterfield and Grace Kraft shared most of the workload with now sophomore Taryn Meiste making scattered appearances.

Chesterfield was the unquestioned leader last season, starting 12 times in 13 games played and compiling 76 saves, a .866 save percentage and five shutouts. Last season was the first Chesterfield really saw much time on the field, though, only starting three games as a sophomore and two as a freshman.

Kraft is not easily counted out of the competition, either. As a freshman, Kraft started 13 of 14 games played, collected nine shutouts the 2016 season and had a save percentage of .890. Her sophomore year she started 13 games, but went 6-7 on the season, despite having 71 saves and an .835 save percentage.

Henson is in no rush to name an established starter at the goalkeeper position however. Winning appears to be priority whether that means all five goalkeepers share time in the net or not.

"We're still taking a look at what we have," Henson said. "No job has been won or lost at this point. We're going to look at the opportunities we have and the roster as a whole. Whether it's field players or goalkeepers, we're going to roll with who gives us the best chance to win."

Despite what Henson says, one player will undoubtedly see more time than the rest, and if I had to guess, that will be Chesterfield once again.

No other goalkeeper for the Bulldogs managed to come near to the 10-2 record that Chesterfield posted last season. Meiste showed flashes of greatness, going 4-0-1 in five starts and it will likely earn her a spot as

Goalkeepers | see page 13



# New face on the football field

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris assistant coach Josh Miller will be working with linebackers this season. He filled the position left open when former assistant coach Ryan Brady took a head coaching job at Saginaw Valley State University.

## Coach Josh Miller looks to make an impact in his first season at Ferris State

**Brendan Sanders**  
Torch Reporter

Ferris coaching staffs breed excellence, as seen last season with Ferris football losing both offensive coordinator Steve Casula to the University of Michigan as an offensive analyst and assistant coach Ryan Brady to a head coaching position at Saginaw Valley State University.

After filling Casula's position with Brian Rock, head coach Tony Annese is now welcoming Josh Miller as assistant coach.

This is Miller's 6th season coaching overall after spending previous seasons at the University of St. Francis (Indiana) and most recently with Division I Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

"The strengths I bring to the Ferris State program are my genuine care and passion to develop student-athletes as people, students and athletes," Miller said. "If you're not committed to developing student-athletes in the order listed above then you do not understand your purpose as a coach. My recruiting efforts and ties to the surrounding areas will also play a part in continuing to bring the best prospective student-athletes to Ferris State."

Miller spent the 2018 campaign coaching wide receivers at Bowling Green, was heavily involved in the recruiting process, coordinated the defensive and special teams scout teams and assisted in the game plans.

Annese had only good things to say about his new

coaching staff and the transition this season and said they may be the best coaching staff he's ever had.

"... Anytime we lose a coach, I always just say — even though it may not be true every year — I always just say, 'We're better than ever coach-wise' because those are the guys we've got," Annese said. "But it's been awesome, we've got some incredible new additions. We've had just a huge positive transition with coaching staff to the degree that I'm very confident that this is the best ever."

Prior to his stint at Bowling Green, Miller spent four years coaching at his alma mater, NAIA powerhouse University St. Francis, according to a Ferris Athletics press release. Joining in 2014, he

worked as the quarterback's coach for two seasons. It was the position he played from 2009 to 2013 as a three-time captain and a two-time All-MSFA player.

Much like what he will be doing this season here at Ferris State, he worked as the linebacker's coach along with special teams in 2016 and 2017.

"I have gotten to know them over the past couple of weeks and I am honored to be their coach," Miller said. "They are certainly a talented group of players, but most importantly great human beings. They make coaching easy and fun. I cannot wait to be around them on a day to day basis."

Miller's coaching will be put to the test for the first time 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, on Top Taggart Field, when the Bulldogs open their season against the University of Findlay (OH).



Tony Annese



Josh Miller



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# The grind never stops

Senior runner talks about rigorous year-round training schedule

Austin Arquette  
Torch Reporter

Ferris senior cross country runner Katie Etelamaki runs nearly 365 days a year, including summer training at home in the upper peninsula with a training partner she's had since birth.

"Summer training went well. I spent my summer back home in the Upper Peninsula, but I have a great training partner up there — my dad," Etelamaki said. "He bikes with me on every workout and long run and didn't miss many of my recovery runs either. We got many miles in together and I stayed healthy and am going into the cross country season feeling strong and ready to get to work with my teammates."

Her junior season, Etelamaki qualified for the Division II Cross Country National Championship, where her 23:07 6K placed her 16th overall and gave her All-American honors. But her standout year didn't stop there. Etelamaki also claimed the league title in the 10,000 meters with a time of 36:34.91 and the competition wasn't even close, with the second place runner 26 seconds behind her.



Katie Etelamaki

The time qualified her for the track and field national championship, where she placed 9th and gained second team All-American honors.

Her running motto to keep her motivated is that "running reminds me that I can do difficult things."

As Etelamaki enters her senior year, she is hoping for an injury free season. With many returning runners from last

year's team and adding six freshmen, she wants her team to qualify for the cross country nationals as a team for the year. She also hopes to qualify for nationals in track for the 5k or 10k or even both.

"Last year I qualified as an individual to compete at the national meet, but would much rather experience competing at that level with my teammates," Etelamaki said. "(I want to) keep growing closer and improving our program overall. Go sub 5 minutes in the mile, an event I don't typically train for as I'm a 5k and 10k runner, but (I) have always wanted to break that barrier."

Etelamaki is on both the cross country and track team, which means she only gets a few days off here and there throughout the entire year.

From the end of May to the end of December she trains for the fall cross country season, after which she gets 12 days off to completely rest and heal both physically and mentally. Then she starts indoor track in January through March when she then takes a whopping one to three days off before outdoor track runs from April to May. Then she take another 12 day break before it starts all over again.

And that's just her training schedule. Etelamaki, a biology major hoping to go to physician's assistant school after graduation, is also in the honors program, the Tri-Beta National Biology Society, Pre-Med Club, volunteers at the Great Lakes Hospice and is a caring aide in home healthcare.

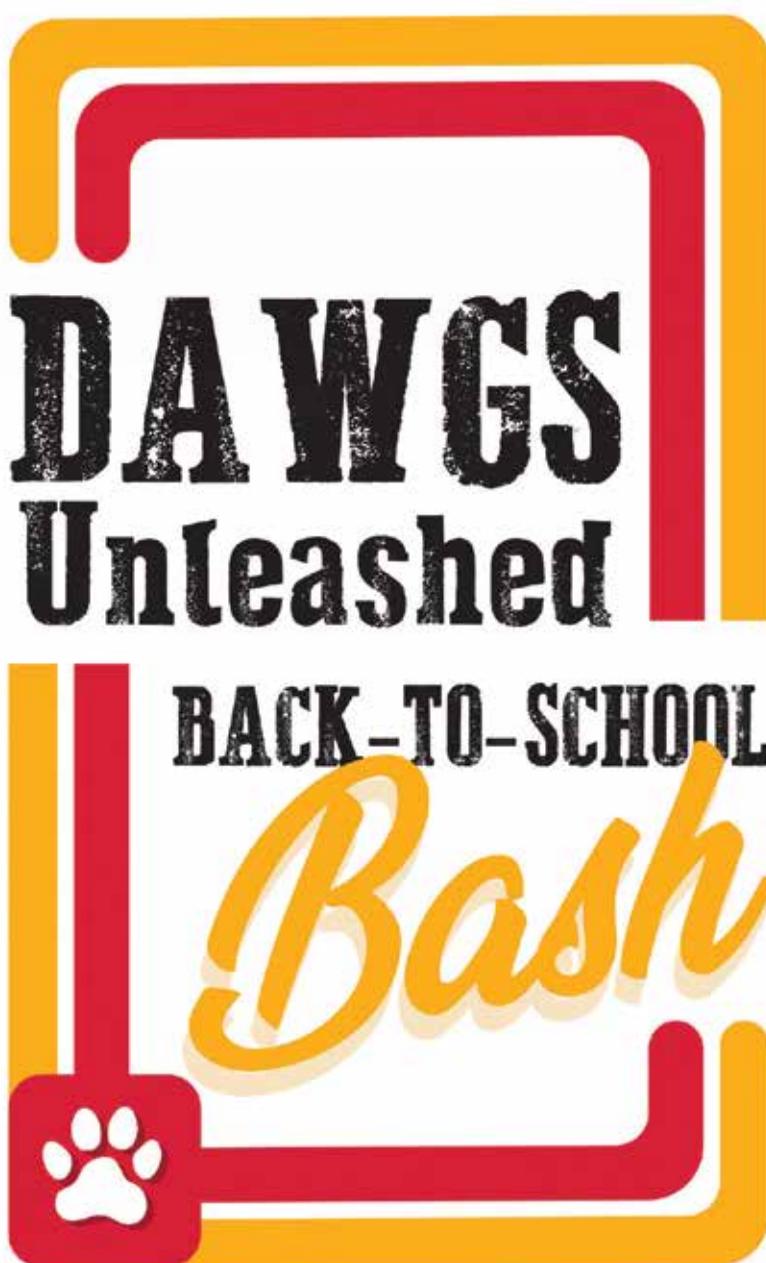
Etelamaki said her daily routine consists of a good breakfast, workout, classes, a small light lunch, practice from 3 to 5 p.m., dinner, homework and finally working at her health-care job.

Currently, she is unsure of her future on running after graduation, but she is considering working out with her coach, who continues training his athletes after graduation for half and full marathons. Etelamaki said her and her coach has a great relationship and that she enjoys his training style.

Etelamaki and the rest of the Bulldogs will kick off the fall season at home at the Ray Helsing Bulldog Invitational Sept. 7.



Photo submitted by Katie Etelamaki  
Ferris senior cross country runner Katie Etelamaki trains nearly every day, only taking 12 days off in between track and cross country seasons.



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# Learning curves

Volleyball falls in exhibition games requires motivation to practice

**Greg Williams**  
Interim Reporter

As the women's volleyball team prepares for their season, exhibition games are an opportunity to find their weaknesses and areas that need work. They kicked off their exhibition play in Big Rapids against Central Michigan on Saturday, Aug. 24. Although they did not get the results they were looking for, they learned some valuable lessons about themselves.

"We learned a lot in the exhibition match against Central," Ferris senior outside hitter Courtney Brewer said. "We love playing teams like them because they show us what areas we need to get better in, in order to win when the games really count. Although it didn't end how we wanted, it made us motivated to work even harder at practice."

The Bulldogs bring back a solid core of veterans and upper classmen. However, they also have brought in six freshman and are forming a new culture and chemistry.



Courtney Brewer

"Preseason has gone a bit different this year since we have only had one week of two-a-days," Brewer said. "I think that the freshman are doing amazing seeing as how this is their first time away from home, adjusting to Ferris, a new team, and even a new assistant coach. Everyone on the team has been adapting really well."



Maeve Grimes

A key to their success and a key to any team's success is how they will be able to build that culture and chemistry. Along with the freshmen and the rest of the team adjusting, there also have been a few standouts.

"As far as players that stand out are some regulars, Allyson Cappel. She's a big weapon for us as well as Courtney Brewer and Katie O'Connell," Ferris senior setter Maeve Grimes said. "We also have Lauren Helsen who is stepping into a big role this year. She was originally a setter and is now one of our liberos. Samantha Herman is also a player who has worked really hard in the off season and has consistently performed well in our preseason and that's so exciting to watch every day."



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Ferris senior outside hitter Allyson Cappel is one of the team's standout players so far this preseason.

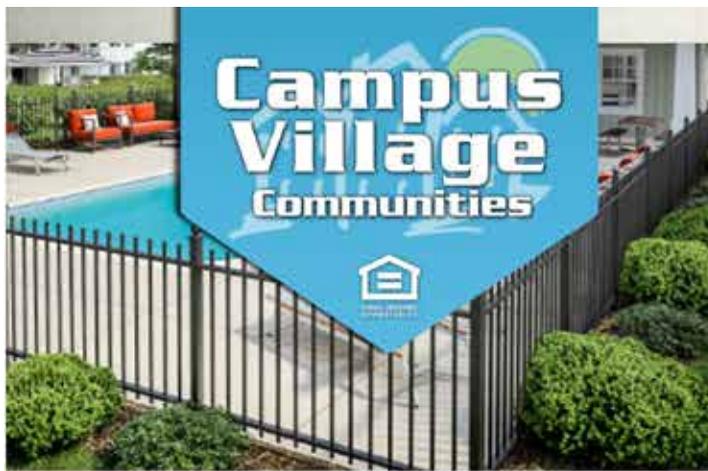
## Goalkeepers

Continued from page 11

a rotational player this season. The experience and leadership that Chesterfield and Kraft bring to the team will give them an edge in the race for starting goalkeeper, but who gets the nod all remains to be seen.

After a scrimmage with Adrian college on Sunday, August 25 and an exhibition match with the University of Findlay Saturday, August 31, the Bulldogs are now ready to kick-off their regular season.

Henson's squad will start their season at home as the Truman State University Bulldogs (Missouri) come to town 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6.



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# OPINIONS

“It’s because I want to be done with filling out the damn FAFSA”  
- Meg Lewton - See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

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## Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Noah Poser

If you’re like me at least, then you are already feeling the pressure of the school year, even though it has just begun. If not, then that’s good, but trust me, it only gets harder from here. With that being said, there is a lot of outside noise that is going on at the same time, whether it be work, struggling with money, or a bevy of other personal issues in your life. If that’s the case, don’t worry, we’ve all been there. If you keep reading, I’ll share some tips that work for me in order to be able to stay on top of the game, mentally speaking of course.

For starters, I’m going to be

perfectly clear in saying that while these may seem simple at first glance, they are definitely harder than they sound. I know that even as I write this that I struggle to do most of these myself on any given day.

The first step to being mentally healthy is being physically healthy. What I mean by that is you have to take care of your body to take care of your mind. That means eating a good meal, one that brings you complete nourishment. Also, eat three meals a day. I know sometimes your schedule can get in the way, but if that’s the case than work around that to make sure

you’re eating.

Also, try to fit in a brief amount of time dedicated to exercise. Whether that comes before you go to sleep (more on that in a bit) or bright and early when you wake up, try something such as going for a run outside. It’s noted that both being outside and exercising both tend to relieve stress. As far as sleep is concerned, do it. I know you’ll have tests to study for and papers to write, but if you can have a consistent sleep schedule, it will go a long way towards a healthy and happy mind.

As far as mentally, there’s a lot to unpack there but the overall

main thing is to try to think positive. I know that sounds cliché, but if you think positive thoughts about yourself, you’ll tend to start to believe those thoughts, thus making you happier in the long run.

The biggest thing to remember, however, is to take breaks. Take some time to yourself to just unwind. There will be days where a lot is thrown at you but if you can unwind with some time to yourself or maybe sitting and talking with someone close to you, that will be the biggest thing that can help you down the road in your mental battle.

## College is a balancing act

Ways to enjoy college life



Sydney Stevens  
Copy Editor

Now that the first week of classes is out of the way, and every student is getting their plans for the semester in order, I want everyone to remember to have fun. This may sound silly, especially to the newer students who are going through such a vast transition; but, I think it is important to remember that college is not all about school.

This is not to say that it isn’t the main priority because we are all here to get the knowledge that we need to jump into our careers. But school should not consume everything that we do as students at this university; it simply isn’t healthy.

The majority of the students on this campus pay a lot of money to only go to class when they could be taking advantage of all of the cool opportunities across campus. I have noticed that many students who follow the pattern of waking up, going to class, going home and repeating usually don’t enjoy being here as much.

College life doesn’t just consist of classes, studying, classes, tests and more classes. It also includes new relationships, clubs, cool events and overall personal growth. You can’t possibly experience any of those things by just going to class and staying cooped up in your room. Your grades will be phenomenal, but you might end up becoming unmotivated as the semester progresses. This is something I am still learning how to do myself because balance is key, but I have gotten significantly better at it since my first year at Ferris.

My hope is that everyone on this campus is able to find something that they enjoy doing with people that they enjoy doing it with.

## Giving me a run for my money

Applying for financial aid shouldn’t be this hard



Meg Lewton  
Lifestyles Editor

I am a:

- Man  
 Woman  
 College student  
Looking for:  
 Men  
 Women  
 An easy way to fill out the FAFSA

I’m graduating in December, and I’m pretty excited to be done with college. Not because I want to be done with classes. Oh, no.

It’s because I want to be done with filling out the damn FAFSA.

Filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is, by far, one of the most stressful college experiences I’ve had to endure thus far. Sure, my capstone was hard, but begging a government entity to give me money that I know I won’t receive? Way harder.

I come from your standard middle class family. We have a good amount of money, but I still certainly needed a lot of help paying for college. We could pay extra for some things; we’d buy Starbucks coffee instead of McDonald’s coffee, and we prefer trucks that run on diesel instead of gasoline. We could splurge when we wanted to, but we couldn’t afford to pay for my entire degree out of pocket.

However, FAFSA doesn’t see this. The way they look at it, because my family gets multiple toppings on our pizza, and because we own two working refrigerators, there’s no way in HELL we need help paying for college!!!

Hahahaha...ha.

Okay, so I know FAFSA isn’t going to give me any money, so I just don’t have to fill it

out, right? After all, it’s not worth spending a bunch of time on this process when a FAFSA employee is just going to give me all of the loose change he has in his car cup holder and then spit in my face, right?

WRONG.

Instead, in order to apply for student loans, the FAFSA has to be filled out already. OK, whatever.

Except I’ve consistently had issues filling it out each year, and every time, I seriously consider dropping out of college to become a clown.

Why is it so complicated? I don’t know. You’d think it would be relatively simple to submit, especially considering every single student has to do so. But each time, it looks like I’m reading hieroglyphics and I’m constantly being asked for information that I couldn’t possibly know how to provide.

Once, when my dad and I were filling it out, he accidentally enrolled himself in college. And no, I’m not kidding.

Another time, I had successfully filled it out but apparently it never fully submitted (even after I hit “submit”) and I had no idea until all of my classes were dropped because it never went through.

I understand why it has to be so extensive. Taking out student loans is a pretty serious deal, and the applicant should be required to provide detailed information for such a thing. However, the process is not user-friendly in the slightest. I’m lucky to have parents who are able to help me with it, but if I didn’t, I would be SOL. I can imagine other people are in the same boat, too.

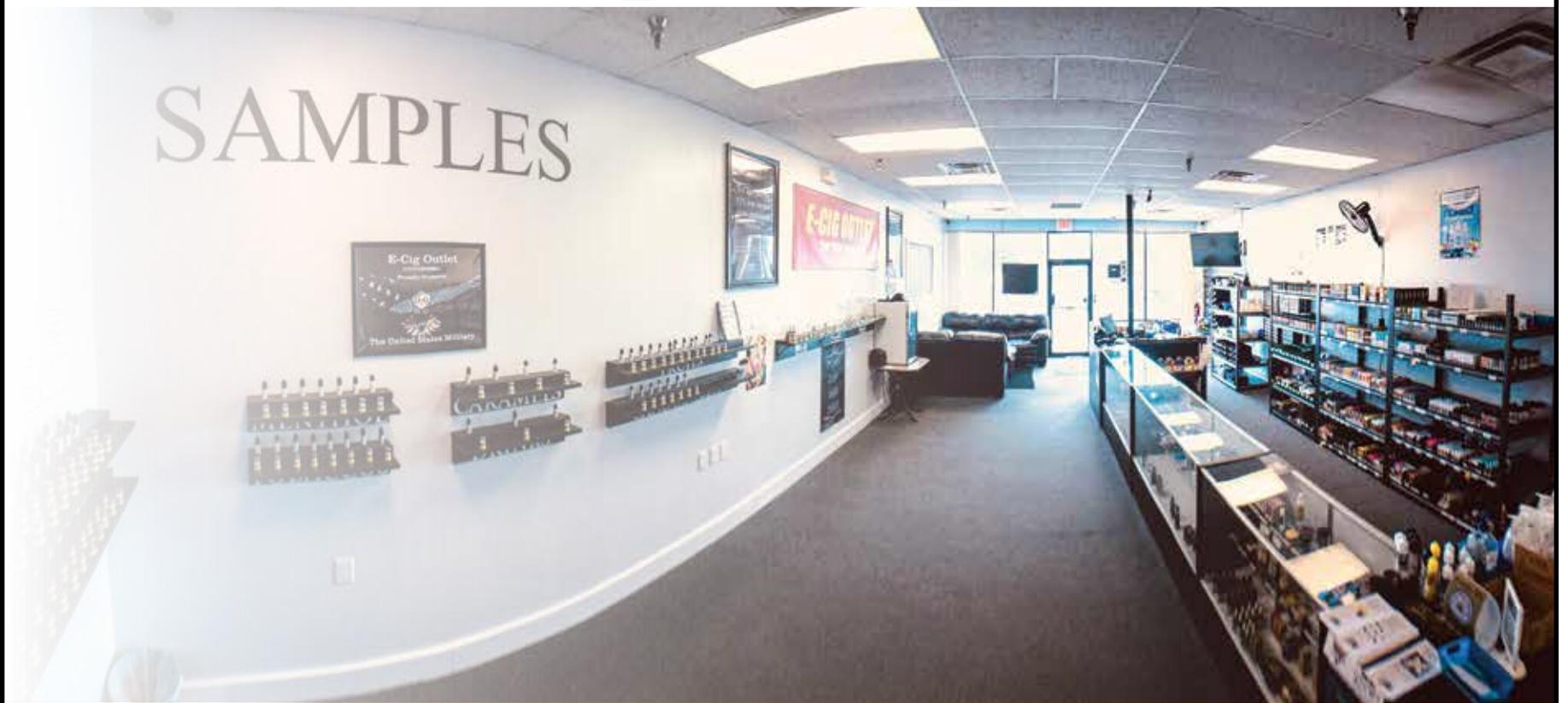
I don’t know, maybe I’m just stupid. Maybe natural selection will kill me off because I can’t successfully apply for financial aid without shedding some tears and flipping some tables.

And if that’s the case, fine. At least I’ll never have to hear the phrase “unsubsidized loan” ever again.

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