

HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

MEETING MICHAEL

Do you know about Michael, the ghost that allegedly haunts the Alumni Building? Read about the legend and student testimonies before you choose to meet him!

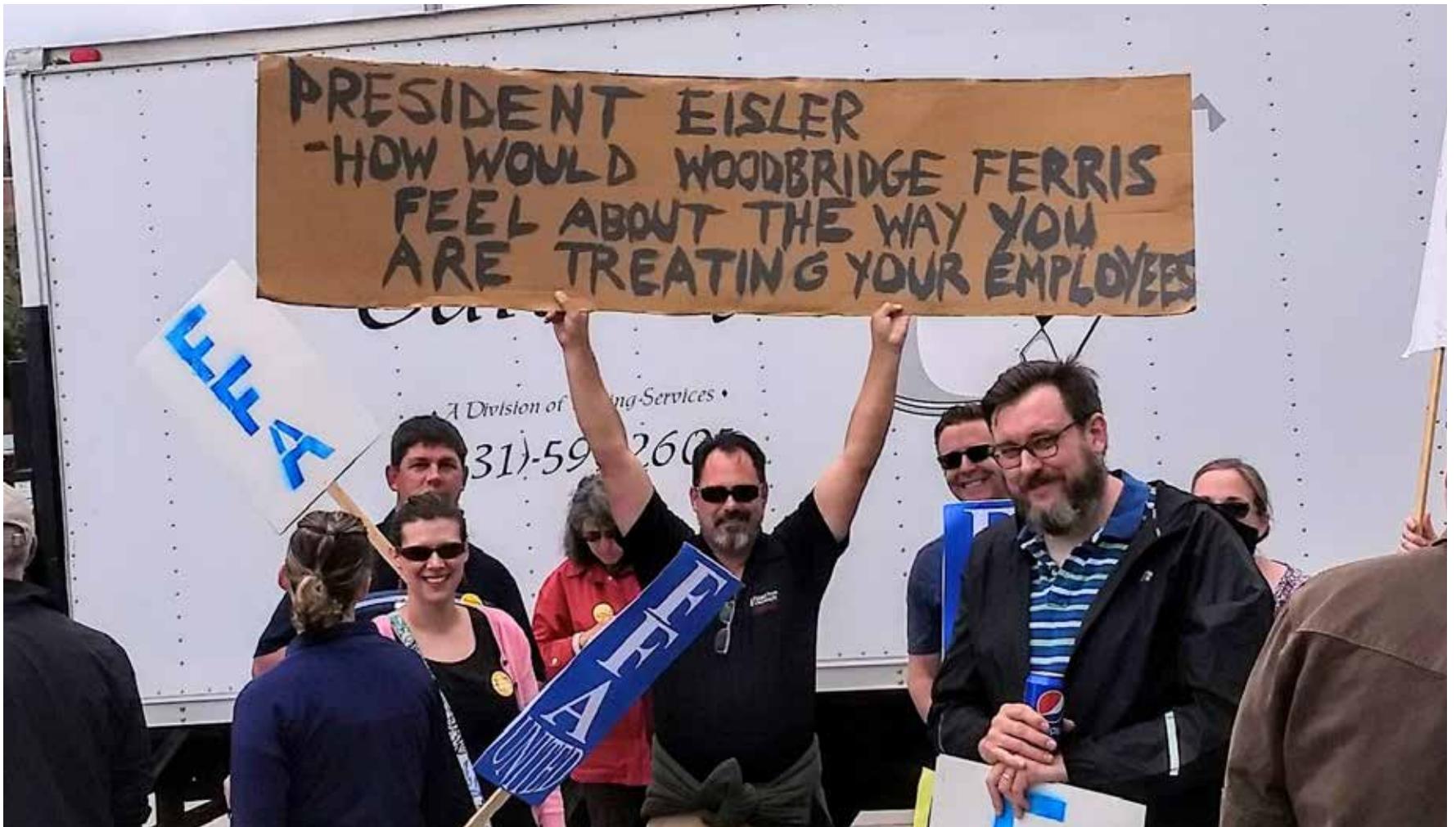
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MORE THAN A TEAM

Emotions ran high for the soccer team as senior midfielder Maddie Fouts overcame adversity to help Ferris to a dominant senior day victory. How dominant? Find out in...

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A long journeys end



Torch File Photo

Ferris Faculty Association members protest during last year's contract dispute Aug. 27, 2018.

With contract grievances finally settled, the FFA and Ferris administration are working to mend their relationship

Grant Siddall
News Editor

Nearly a year after the Ferris Faculty Association (FFA) and university officials came to a contract agreement the fighting between the two sides seems to have come to an end.

The Torch reported in December and February of 2018 that the FFA had filed grievances against the university for unpaid wages. Those grievances were recently settled in favor of the FFA.

The issue stemmed from contractual language the FFA argued would give them a salary increase of \$1,841 spread across the remaining paychecks of the 2018-19 academic year. However, the university contested that they could not give the pay increase for the weeks that FFA members were not under the current contract due to Michigan laws preventing retroactive pay. This resulted in a pay shortage of about \$700 dollars each for FFA members and resulted in a filed grievance in early 2019.

After the two sides met with a labor relations judge during the summer, the judge ruled that the testimonies of both FFA President Charles Bacon and of Ferris President David Eisler's lawyer, Jim Greene, were credible and that there wasn't a "meeting of the minds" between the sides. Essentially, the

sides did not understand the contract in the same way.

This conclusion led to a ruling that sent the FFA and university administration back to the bargaining table to amend the contract language.

During that meeting, university administration presented the FFA with an agreement to fully pay the disputed amount, which was agreed to by the FFA.

Now, with the final remnant of a tumultuous contract dispute behind both sides, the focus is on mending a work relationship that has recently been filled with animosity, grievances and a vote of no confidence against President Eisler.

"Here we are almost a year later and I think both sides just want to get past this," FFA President Charles Bacon said. "In a simple word, I think things are getting better. The board chairman wrote a letter the university faculty right at the beginning of the semester and as I read that letter I thought 'this seems like an outreach'... so I reciprocated by reaching out to board members."

Charles Bacon

Bacon

In addition to outreach from both sides to begin the mending process, Bacon said he has also spoken with President Eisler about setting up regular meetings to speak and discuss issues, which Eisler has agreed to.

"I've said this to the provost and to the president, we're tired of fighting. That doesn't mean we won't fight when we have to but this is not good. Honestly, the faculty are in a good place right now. They're happy, the contract is quite good. We like where we're at right now... We don't need another year like last year," Bacon said. "We want some stability so we're kind of saying lets all work towards making this work."

Many Ferris students are happy to see the sides fixing their relationship.

"I think Ferris trying to settle this and get things back to normal and with the union, even though they're fighting for what they believe in and what they want, they're still like 'It was just business and we really want to make things work' is very mature on both sides," Ferris psychology senior Aaron Davenport said. "I think it's very noble they want to try to mend this relationship."

For other students, they're glad to see the FFA and university administration working together, and they hope this will prevent additional disputes in the future.

"The strike sucked for the students, especially freshmen who didn't even have class and that was very unfortunate for students paying for classes and missed out because of a conflict. It's important that they get on the same page and try to resolve issues and come to a closer relationship. It's important for both sides and for students," Ferris business administration junior Nathan Hall said. "It's important they're actively trying to prevent this from happening again and I think it'll be good for both sides."

Bacon said that while many of the issues between the FFA and university administration come down to a difference in belief on how to allocate the budget, he doesn't believe that the continuous shrinking of Ferris' budget as a result of decreased enrollment will cause issues between the two sides.

"We're always going to have that issue of 'we don't think you're spending the students money wisely,' that's union management 101, but it doesn't mean we're not going to get along and try to work things out and all do the best we can for Ferris State," Bacon said.

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"A couple people die from vaping and we have to ban it. So why are people still smoking? It's just very hypocritical and ignorant" - Devin Patrick - See below for story

Grant Siddall | News Editor | siddalg@ferris.edu

Hispanic enrollment rising

Ferris Latin@ program brings in more Hispanic students to campus

Trent Carlson
Torch Reporter

From 2014–2018 Hispanic enrollment has increased 33% at Ferris, as a result of the Latin@ program.

Founded in the fall of 2012, The Center of Latin@ Studies (CLS) was intended to connect with Latinx communities across West Michigan. This began with Ferris officials reaching out to local high schools and communities to understand what types of barriers Latinx community members faced when pursuing success in post-secondary education. Along with these efforts the program also connects with students at Ferris to better understand their needs as well. All of this has led to the uptick in enrollment.

"Throughout all of this developing we have also worked alongside students to reestablish the Spanish Club, Hispanic Student Organization and provided support to Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority Inc. and Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity Inc. in their formation at Ferris State University. Holistically, we have been making intentional and meaningful connections within the Latinx community to support studies in their post-secondary decisions," Ferris executive director and cofounder of The Center of Latin@ Studies Kaylee Burke said.

Ferris students also believe it important to better the Latin@ program on campus and are fully supportive of their efforts to better the commu-

nity.

"I think it promotes diversity in a way that a lot of underrepresented students see that more of their culture is coming to Ferris so they feel more encouraged to go to college," Ferris HR management student and junior Edith Moreno, said.

Not only has the Latin@ program been successful in recruiting students in the past but also has more in store for the future. These plans are intended to better the experiences of students on campus and to also further increase enrollment.

"This summer, CLS and the L.E.A.D. by Design Program are collaborating with the TIP Scholars Early Move in Program to expand an early move in program for Fall 2020. Additionally, our office is looking at more intentional ways to connect with Latinx faculty and staff on campus to increase representation and address the needs of the Latinx professional community on campus. We are also interested in providing a training to campus partners about being allies to the undocumented and DACA community," Burke said.

Other students also think it is a vital part of the college experience to be encompassed in diverse culture for the opportunities it provides them.

"I'm from somewhere that's not diverse at all and I like it a lot more here where the people are diverse," Ferris freshmen Madison Leader, said.

Ferris is making great efforts to expand their diversity among the campus and the Latin@ program is a major asset to this process.

Impeachment is a touchy subject

You must know the history of impeachment before you can favor or dis-favor it



Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

I would personally give anyone 50 dollars if they could name the first person impeached by the House of Representatives. Or I'd make a simpler bet for 10 dollars. Name the article and sections in the Constitution which gives Congress the right to impeach and remove.

If you guessed Tennessee state senator William Blount and Article One, sections II and III, then I guess I owe you 60 dollars.

Many people believe the first person to be impeached was Andrew Johnson, or even Bill Clinton, but in fact, it was a U.S. senator from Tennessee. He was charged with conspiracy to assist Great Britain's attempt to seize Spanish controlled territories within the U.S. This happened in 1799.

Congress has the right to impeach any federal worker that was elected or appointed to office. This includes federal judges, Congressmen, the president's cabinet, and of course the president himself.

Since the first impeachment it took President Andrew Johnson 69 years to be the sixth person to be impeached by the House of Representatives. Before him were senators, judges on district courts, and even a United States Supreme Court Justice.

If we look back to what happened to former President Andrew Johnson, a law was put in place called the Tenure of Office Act so Johnson could not fire any cabinet member who was probably controlling the reconstruction in the south and making it hard for democrats. But that is only my guess.

Johnson removed Secretary of War Edwin Stanton who, at the time, was the head of reconstruction in the south. Thus, the impeachment process began.

The articles of impeachment were filed Feb. 25, 1868, and voted on in March. This was a big deal as it was the first time the person in the highest position was vulnerable of losing their job.

How is this a bigger deal than now and what happened to Clinton? Well the 25th amendment speaks of the secession of power and some other fancy things like renaming a vice president, plus the removal of the president in different ways other than impeachment, but that's not important.

This amendment was ratified in 1967, almost 100 years since Johnson. That means there may have been some trouble finding a new president after Johnson since he was vice to Abraham Lincoln. Luckily for Johnson, the senators voted on party lines 66-34 and he got to keep the presidency.

Okay I know, "Ry that is a lot of history." Listen, you have to understand this to know what would happen to President Trump after the articles of

impeachment, impeachment itself, and possibly removal.

President Trump has 23 pending articles of impeachment under his name, but the two sub-committees will investigate and see how many high-crimes and/or misdemeanors get stuck to him.

After the investigations by the two committees, the vote will go to the House floor. The president needs to get less than 218 votes on all articles to not face trial in the senate. This is particularly hard because there are 235 house democrats at the moment.

If it makes it to the senate, President Trump will have to get subpoenaed and show up to testify and answer questions in front of the senate jury and judge.

This is when it gets risky. To remove him, it would take 67 votes also known as the super majority of the senate. This is basically to make sure what they are doing is the right choice for the people of the United States.

Here are some facts about the last impeachment and trial of a president. The opposing party lost five seats in the House even though polling showed they would gain in the midterms of Bill Clinton's presidency.

Clinton's impeachment was a lame duck presidency, so compared to Trump's this is far different. Maybe the articles of impeachment and the trial are to help the democratic party, by taking away the president from his campaign trail and hurt his polling.

This could be a problem, yet I don't find it to be because Trump is one of the only presidents to campaign over the course of his presidency. Also, the fact that Trump has blown off this entire issue like it is not a big deal on twitter, has his followers satisfied that it is a 'witch hunt.'

An NPR Oct. 8 poll is showing that 49% favor impeachment and 47% disagree of it, but when it comes down to removal, polls are split 48% even. A major percentage say the people should settle the presidency at the polls either by voting, or not for President Trump.

If it comes to the worst and the 45th president of the United States becomes the first ever to be removed from office, the Vice President, Mike Pence would take over.

Mike Pence was the former governor of Indiana. While governor he supported the use of federal funding to treat people who were "seeking to change their sexual behavior."

Bringing it back

The ban on flavored vape juice has been reversed, at least temporarily

Grant Siddall
News Editor

After becoming the first state to enact a ban on flavored vape products last month, Michigan's flavor ban may already be at its end.

Though the initial ban went into effect last month, retailers had until Oct. 2 to comply, meaning that starting on Oct. 3 all flavored e-liquid, more commonly known as vape juice, was illegal to sell.

The ban was set to be in effect for six months and then be reevaluated by Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Instead, it lasted less than two weeks before a judge on Michigan's Court of Claims issued a preliminary injunction, effectively reversing the ban for the time being.

Court of Claims judge Cynthia Diane Stephens cited the harmful impact of the ban on local businesses as the reason for blocking it, saying that the

harm to business outweighs the state interest in stopping youth from using vape products.

Governor Whitmer said she plans to ask for a stay on the court ruling and that she will appeal the decision with the Michigan Supreme Court.

Many Ferris students were confused with the reasoning behind the ban, which cited health concerns and use among youth, and feel like it will not be reenacted.

"I don't think it's going to be reenacted, people are going to continue to vape and it's going to be completely legal," Ferris mechanical engineering freshmen Devin Patrick said. "If you look at how many people have died from cigarettes, thousands upon thousands upon thousands so why aren't they banned yet? A couple people die from vaping and we have to ban it. So why are people still smoking? It's just very hypocritical and ignorant," Patrick said

E-Cig Outlet employee and Ferris respiratory therapy junior Alex Paschal said that the ban has negatively impacted business, causing

E-Cig Outlet to layoff multiple employees. Paschal is also concerned about the added health risks caused by the ban.

The ban originally was set to ban all flavored vape juice but was amended to only ban flavored vape juice containing nicotine. However, vape users could still purchase juice and add nicotine packets, which are heavily concentrated and can be dangerous if used incorrectly.

"It's more dangerous if anything. Having all this zero-milli-



Devin Patrick

Vaping | see page 4

Impeach | see page 3

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Blazin' it in Brophy

Meg Lewton
Lifestyles Editor

closed.

Marijuana in McNerney

Oct. 17, 12:13 a.m., officers responded to a report of marijuana use in McNerney Hall. The case is closed.

Blazin' it in Brophy

Oct. 17, 9:29 p.m., officers investigated a controlled substance violation report regarding marijuana use in Brophy Hall. The case is closed.

A serious situation

Oct. 17, 10:09 p.m., officers responded to a nonaggravated assault case in FLITE. The case remains open and is pending investigation.

THC in Travis

Oct. 17, 11:38 p.m., a controlled substance violation involving marijuana possession was reported in Travis Hall. The case is closed.

I'm just tryna make it to my 8 a.m., man

Oct. 18, 8:08 a.m., officers pulled over a subject without insurance on Northland Drive. The case is

At least they weren't driving

Oct. 19, midnight, officers responded to a report of a minor in possession of marijuana in Lot 4. A citation was issued.

Are you guys STILL trying to get high on campus?

Oct. 19, 8:39 p.m., marijuana use was reported in Miller Hall. The case is closed.

Yeah, that's pretty important

Oct. 19, 9:35 p.m., officers pulled over a vehicle at Northland Drive and 14 Mile Road, where the driver did not have insurance. The subject was arrested.

Slashed on Sunday

Oct. 20, 2 a.m., officers investigated a report of various liquor violations, including a minor in possession of alcohol and attempts to illegally purchase alcohol in Brophy Hall. The case was closed.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 316 tickets between the dates of Oct. 13 and Oct. 19, totaling \$5,025.

NEWS BRIEFS

Meg Lewton
Lifestyles Editor

Trick or Treat Yo'self

Enjoy a tasty treat and learn more about how the LGBTQ+ community celebrates Halloween 10:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. in the CLACS Lobby. The event will feature a caramel apple bar and information courtesy of the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. For more information, contact Megan Innis at innism@ferris.edu.

Tower of Terror

Get in the Halloween spirit at the Tower of Terror 4 — 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, in the Music Center. Here, the Student Alumni Gold Club will hand out candy, the Ferris Department of Public Safety will provide giveaways and the History Task Force will give out special collectible buttons. For more information, contact MaryKay Maclver at MaryKayMaclver@ferris.edu.

Bring Your Key, Skate for Free

Enjoy free ice skating, courtesy of the Residence Hall Association 8:30 — 11 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, in Ewigleben Ice Arena. The event will feature ice skating, laser tag, food, games and giveaways. Participants do not need to be residents to attend, and people are encouraged to wear a Halloween costume, as long as the costume doesn't contain any floor length parts that may be a hazard while skating. For more information, contact Kayla Garrett at KaylaGarrett@ferris.edu.

Impeach

Continued from page 2

Pence also had the tendency to favor different-sex marriage only bills when he was governor. Like HJR-3 in 2014. This was the amendment to ban same-sex marriage.

While as Vice President, Pence also started off voting controversially as the 101st vote beating the tie of 50-50 to add, Michigan's own, Betsy DeVos as the Secretary of Education. Pence was probably thinking, someone needs to protect us from those bears.

If Pence were to take over, I

don't think he would have enough time to announce that he would run for re-election and I don't think he would get the support. Plus he would have almost no time to get anything done as acting president if Trump was removed.

My overall concern is, is this going to affect the election of 2020? Could it hurt the democrats who may lose seats in the Senate and House for favoring the impeachment. Will Donald Trump lose the election because of his absence on the campaign trail because of a possible trial? Or is it going to matter what the definition of is 'is' again?

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Grant Siddall
News Editor

Muktita Suhartono, Oct. 21, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Afghanistan

The United States is slowly removing troops from Afghanistan despite not having reached a peace deal with the Taliban. According to the top American commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Austin S. Miller, the US has removed about 2,000 troops from Afghanistan in the past year. US negotiators had used removing troops from the area as a bargaining tactic with the Taliban, however, President Donald Trump abruptly ended peace talks in August and it appears that troops will be removed from the area with or without a deal with the Taliban.

Original article by Thomas Gibbons-Neef and Mujib Mashal, Oct. 21, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Jakarta, Indonesia

Indonesia swore in President Joko Widodo for a second term Sunday Oct. 20, in the midst of protests against him. Many Indonesian citizens have been protesting against Widodo since his election victory in April due to his willingness to limit personal freedoms and his opposition to anti-corruption efforts. While Widodo wished to keep the inauguration event low key, at least 31,000 police officers and military personnel were present.

Original article by Richard C. Paddock and

Congo

The World Health Organization (WHO) is continuing the emergency status for the Ebola outbreak in Congo. The amount of new cases has declined from 128 per week in April down to just 15 per week but WHO said that getting the cases down to zero will still be difficult. Despite the introduction of two effective treatments, the fatality rate in the area is still 67%. WHO anticipates that the emergency status will stay in effect for between one and three months.

Original article by Donald G. McNeil Jr., Oct. 18, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Shchetinkino, Russia

A dam at a Russian gold mine collapsed this week killing at least 15 people. Two workers dormitories were flooded after the small dam collapsed at around 6 a.m. due to heavy rains. In addition to the 15 workers who were killed, seven are still unaccounted for and 16 were injured. According to Russia's agency for technological and ecological oversight the dam was not registered or approved for use.

Original article by Associated Press, Oct. 19, 2019. *The New York Times*

Torch Corrections

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Vaping

Continued from page 2

gram stuff and then having nicotine packets, it's all FDA approved so it's meant for people to do but I don't like that people have to do that. That nicotine is super concentrated. We're talking about one milliliters worth turning something from zero nicotine all the way to 0.6% or higher," Paschal said.



Alex Paschal

While fatalities from nicotine poisoning are rare, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports of nicotine poisoning rose from one per month in 2010 to 215 per month in 2014. The risk of nicotine poisoning is significantly raised by vape users adding nicotine solutions to their own vape juice.

While the reversal was based around the economical impact of the ban,

the safety of allowing businesses to sell vape products with nicotine is also on the minds of many Ferris students.

"I feel like if you ban vaping people are going to find something worse. I know that a lot of my friends that vape a lot they go to weed instead now and I feel like you want more people to be vapers than [marijuana users]. People are going to find something to fill in that hole and it's dangerous so I'm glad they reversed it," Ferris auto engineering freshmen Dan Larosa said.

Despite being happy about the reversal, Larosa said he thinks the ban will be placed back in effect due to the short time span not allowing the state to assess negative or positive impacts.

Despite the reversal in Michigan, President Trump has spoken about the possibility of a federal ban on vaping products. That, along with Governor Whitmer challenging the court ruling, will leave the future of flavored vape juice in limbo for the foreseeable future.



Torch File Graphic

Housing and dining cut rates for freshmen

Ferris changes housing and dining rates to become more affordable for new and returning students

Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

Ferris' housing and dining has cut their rates for single rooms over the last three years but have made other choices more expensive

In the 2018-19 school year the rate for a single room \$7,566 dollars for the academic school year. The price changed this school year to \$7,679 dollars, an increase of \$113 dollars, but next years rate has been slashed by \$479 equaling out to \$7,200 for the academic year.

Even with these cuts, many returning students still find no interest with boarding at the university.

"I have looked at the prices of other apartments and I feel like I am getting ripped off by the university if I choose to room and board here next year" Ferris nursing major freshman Emma Herman said.

Comparatively, the average cost of Campus Creek apartments are around \$400 dollars a month. That is with utilities. Campus Creek also pays for your parking pass for the school year. These apartments also have other incentives for students to stay there for the year.

The lowest costing apartment on campus are the west campus apartments with two to three beds. Starting at \$665 dollars a month for the 2020-21 academic year.

Ferris has been trying to combat these prices by lowering rates, but there is a reason why they cannot match these prices.

These rate changes come from a board of trustees and they base it off the administration's recommendations. The board tried to generate the same revenue of the previous year(s). Thus, there has been a lower demand in single rooms, so they have cut the cost.

So, with North Hall, it has been

in high demand ever since it was built, so the rate has been raised throughout the years.

Ferris has still been trying to become more affordable for students in the nation by other ways such as cutting the prices of meal plans, or credits.

According to study.com, Ferris ranked 37th out of 50 in the "Most Affordable Colleges."

"The cost of higher education increased significantly in the last 10-15 years as state support diminished. Ferris will take every opportunity to hold down cost

of attendance when it can be done without sacrificing quality" Ferris' Vice President for administration and finance Jim Bachmeier said.

Over the years, Ferris has been below the average of Michigan College attendance rates. The average difference from Ferris' cost to the average of Michigan colleges is \$1,178 dollars.

Another student had a thought on why Ferris has been trying to become more affordable over the past few years.

"I think Ferris is in a rural area and I think they do not have as much money in this area, so I think [Ferris] is becoming more affordable so it attracts more people to this area" Ferris pre-med sophomore Callie Jacobson said.

The average cost of attendance for in-state students during the 2018-19 academic year was \$12,068 compared to Michigan's college average of \$14,160.



Jim Bachmeier



Callie Jacobson

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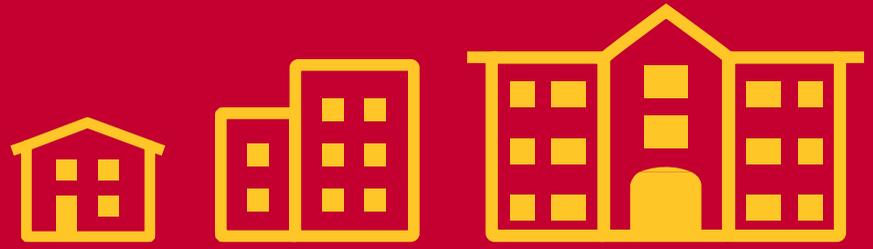
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LIFESTYLES

“I think people that do believe in ghosts have an overactive imagination.”
- Dean Zahm - See below for story

Meg Lewton | Lifestyles Editor | lewtonm1@ferris.edu

Meeting Michael

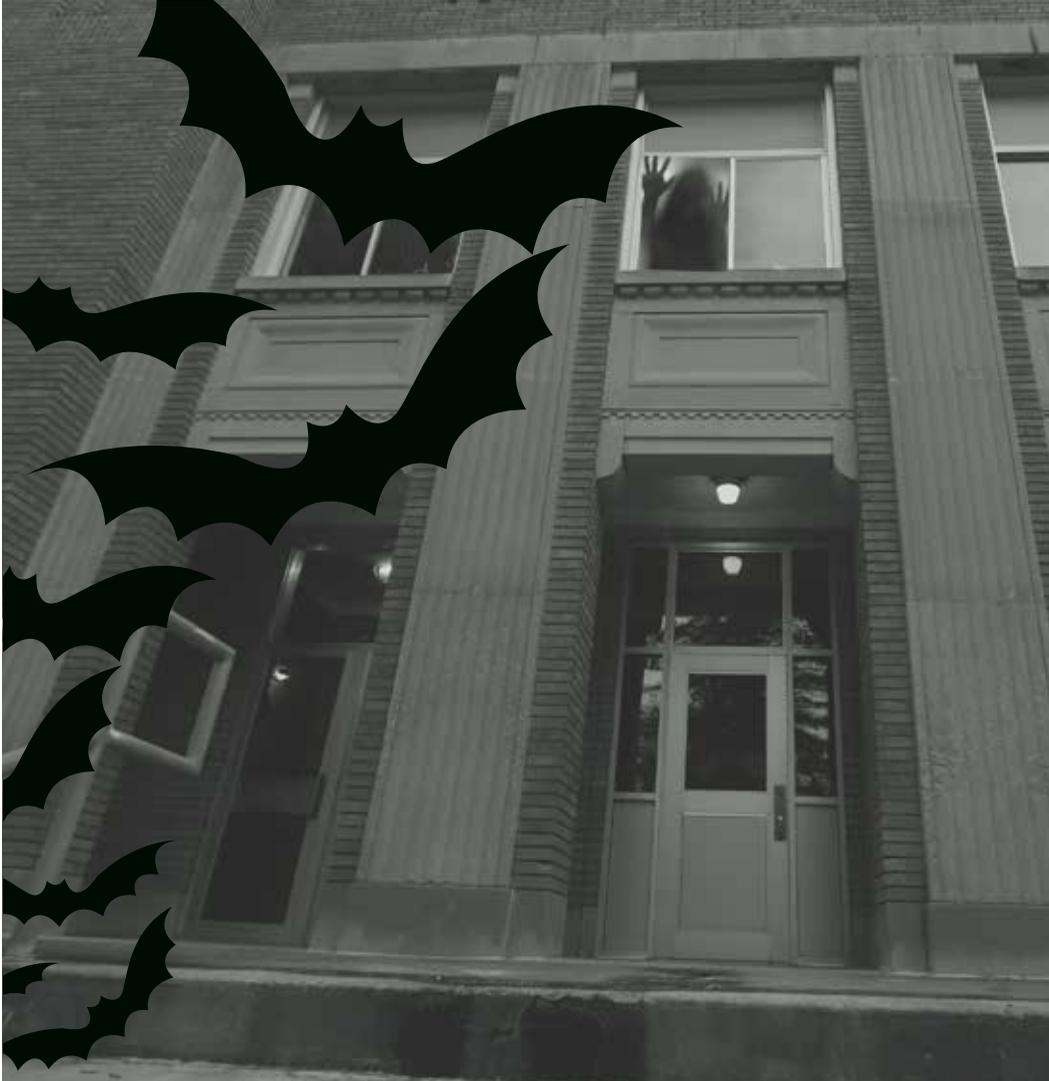


Photo Illustration by: Hunter Pariseau and Sarah Massey | Torch Photographer and Production Manager

The Alumni Building, located at 410 Oak St., is believed to be haunted by a ghost named Michael. Michael is an alleged victim in the fire that burnt down Old Main in 1950.

The tale of the Alumni building ghost

Marissa Russell
Lifestyles Reporter

For some students, walking through the Alumni Building is like being in a scary movie.

While many know about Michael, the friendly Alumni building ghost, some may not. According to the legend, Michael was someone who died when Old Main burned down Feb. 21, 1950. Though Old Main's remains were demolished, neighboring Alumni stands firm today. Although nobody “officially” died in the fire, people still believe or pretend to believe Michael is one forgotten victim to the fire who haunts the basement of Alumni.

Fast forward 69 years, and students are still scared of the mysterious chairs that move and the phone that rings with no one on the other end.

One student with a memorable experience with Michael is Ferris information technology senior Maggie Burgess. Burgess was in the basement of Alumni her freshman year when the first occurrence happened.

“I would sit outside my classroom 15 minutes before it started and play on my phone,” Burgess said. “I didn't mind it until the lights would sometimes turn off randomly. At first, I thought someone was messing with me, but when I couldn't hear anyone else down there, I was convinced it was Michael.”



Maggie Burgess

After that, Burgess stopped coming early, but she wasn't the only student with a strange occurrence.

Ferris finance sophomore Jameson Pavelka has never had a class in Alumni, but that didn't stop him from exploring the building. Pavelka and his friends went exploring through the building one night with a Ouija board.

Pavelka said he doesn't believe in ghosts, even after the strange events which occurred during the night.

“The piece moved along the board, but I have no doubt it was because of one of my friends moved it,” Pavelka said. “It was creepy being down there, but I don't think there was anything supernatural going on.”

Pavelka isn't the only disbeliever, though. Ferris television and digital media production junior Dean Zahm works in the Ferris archives in the Alumni Building, and he doesn't believe the rumors.



Dean Zahm

“I don't believe in Michael, nor do I believe in ghosts,” Zahm said. “I think people that do believe in ghosts have an overactive imagination. Most things that occur that people blame on ghosts can be explained logically. For example, Alumni is heated with steam. When the steam is running through the pipes, this can make some weird noises.”

Zahm said another explanation to the myth of Michael is the upstairs was previously a convalescence field room for tuberculosis patients.

“I know that there was a ghost hunt a long time ago,” Zahm said. “It is said that the ghost hunters went down to one of the rooms in the basement and did an EVP [electronic voice phenomena] session. I think they heard the name Michael, probably after asking for the ghost's name.”

Although Zahm has worked in the archives for a while, he has not had any experiences with anything out of the ordinary.

“Please don't sneak into Alumni after dark,” Zahm said. “Maybe Michael is real and, who knows, maybe he's actually a demon looking for a new hot.”

What's your favorite Halloween memory?

Lily Brown
Torch Reporter



“Every year, my dad made my Halloween costume and I remember how cool I felt dressed up as the character Link from the Legend of Zelda. I didn't ever care about the candy; my favorite thing was when people recognized who I was dressed up as. I could be a nerd and no one judged me.”

Ferris secondary education junior Savannah Torrey

“I would say my favorite Halloween memory would be getting dressed up with my younger siblings. They would always let me do their face paint or makeup, whichever the costume called for. There was one year my brother was a skeleton and my sister was a witch.”

Ferris elementary education senior Alicia Harvill



“Probably my first one with my daughter. We went trick or treating; she was a dalmatian that year. We didn't go far because she was only a month old, but we went to my parents' and my grandparents' and my mom put a little Milk Bone on her pacifier so she looked super adorable.”

Ferris social work junior Autumn Sherwood

“My first Halloween, I dressed as a cat — I think I was 10 — and we went out and generally had a good time. There was this little boy — maybe like five or six — handing out candy. When he walked by, there was about four bowls full of candy with him. His mom went inside for some reason and when we came back, he just dumped the whole bowl into each one of our bags. Then his mom came out and said ‘No no no no,’ but she let us keep the candy. So that was pretty fun.”

Ferris digital animation and game design junior Andy Mindy



“I went to Traverse City with my friends to this haunted house called ‘Things in the Dark,’ and they had haunted pole barns and corn mazes and it was super scary.”

Ferris marketing freshman Caroline Cook



Scaring for a cause

Ferris fraternity hosts haunted house to benefit Special Olympics

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

The Ferris chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa is preparing to make people scream to make others smile.

The fraternity will be holding a haunted house for the second year in a row raising money for their philanthropy, Special Olympics.

Ferris construction management senior and Phi Sigma Kappa member Jeremiah Hoover will oversee the coordinating and planning of the house this year.

"Last year, we had a really good turn out, so we thought we'd make it into an annual thing," Hoover said.

According to Hoover, the spooky attraction raised \$1,873 for Special Olympics last year.

This year, Phi Sigma Kappa has made changes to make the house even better than the year before.

"Last year, we went for a crazy haunted house just with random stuff. This year, we're sticking to a little bit more of a theme and there will be a different route that we're taking, so it's going to be really different from last year," Hoover said.

Hoover believes the haunted house creates an alternative to the typical Halloween activities while raising money for a great cause.

"It's a great opportunity to support a really worthy cause. Special Olympics needs a lot of equipment and gym hours, and this is a great way to raise money for it. Also, it's a really fun, safe and cost-effective way to have fun on Halloween. Just come out. It's not going to be during the weekend, so you're not going to be influenced by any parties or anything like that."

Ferris social work senior and Phi Sigma Kappa President Carlton Thompson said the haunted house will be able to provide an experience many other fundraisers cannot.

"The haunted house is unique for multiple aspects. We recruit the help of volunteers from other organizations. We are



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Ferris alum Brett LaMere scared students in Phi Sigma Kappa's haunted house last year.

able to directly impact the population we're raising money for and I think that's truly impactful. There's not many other events that require so much planning and work to carry out. It makes the end results that much more meaningful though," Thompson said.

With other haunted houses in the area, students might have a difficult time choosing which one to attend. However, Thompson believes there are many advantages to the Phi Sigma Kappa haunted house.

"We differ from other haunts in the area for various reasons. We've got one of the lower rates being one of them, the location is very convenient compared to some drives you

need to make, and I've been told that we sit on the more spooky side of the spectrum than those in the area, too. But I'll let you all be the judge of that," Thompson said.

Admission for Ferris students is \$4 and regular admission is \$5. Phi Sigma Kappa is also still looking for volunteers to help run the house.

The Phi Sigma Kappa haunted house will be operating 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, to Thursday, Oct. 31, at 118 Oak Street in Big Rapids.

Last minute Halloween costumes

When it's Oct. 30 and you don't have a costume yet

Lily Brown
Torch Reporter

With Halloween just around the corner, many students are stressed out by midterms, so the idea of Halloween costumes can be a relaxing break.

However, while dressing up can be fun and relaxing, it is also stressful when money is involved. How can a person beat the stress and dress to impress?

Shopping on a budget!

Here are some easy do-it-yourself Halloween costumes that won't break the bank.

Smarty Pants

Anyone love a good pun? Here's a super sweet costume idea.

What is needed:

- Jeans
- Smarties candies
- Hot Glue

How to create:

- First, place your jeans on a safe surface.
- Warm the hot glue until ready to apply.
- Place small dots all over jeans and glue Smarties to them. Be careful: when glue is too hot, it will melt the candies.

Cat

Ever wanted to have an excuse to be able to knock things over without consequence? Here it is.

What is needed:

- Fake cat tail
- Fake cat ears
- Makeup for cat face

How to create:

- Draw cat-like nose on tip of your nose. Add whiskers and as many details as wanted or necessary.
- Put on cat ears and tails.

Skeleton

Everyone has a skeleton inside of them. It's time to let

that boney critter out!

What is needed:

- Black and white makeup
- Skeleton leggings and gloves
- Clothing of any style

How to create:

- Create a trace of bone structure on face in white and color the rest black.
- Put on skeletal accessories.
- Finish with clothing over the skeletal accessories.

- Skeleton clothing can be either purchased or created with markers and/or paint.



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Local haunts

Halloween destinations – both real and staged

Ghost Road

Legend dictates there was once an Amish father and daughter riding their buggy. A speeding car emerged, spooking the horse which crashed the buggy. The legend claims if you turn your car off and set your keys on top of your car, the ghost of the Amish father will come out to your car seeking revenge for his daughter who died in the crash.

Between 1 Mile Rd. and 200th Ave., Hersey

Big Rapids 4

It's said there's a poltergeist, origin unknown, that haunts the local movie

theater. This Halloween is a perfect time to go watch a movie and be scared by a local ghost.

213 S Michigan Ave., Big Rapids



Alumni Building

In the basement of Alumni, you are definitely not prepared for the tingles down your spine. Go meet Michael, the friendly Alumni ghost.

410 Oak St., Big Rapids



Fish hatchery

Although there's not a real ghost that haunts this place, it doesn't mean fishy, frightening business isn't afloat. Ferris students host a haunted house every year at the fish hatchery in Paris, just north of Big Rapids.

22090 Northland Dr., Paris



Phi Sigma Kappa Haunted House

This haunted house is held by a Ferris fraternity, with funds benefitting Special Olympics.

118 Oak St., Big Rapids.



US 131



Ghost Road

15 miles north

US 131



Fish hatchery

7.5 miles north

S Michigan Ave.



Big Rapids 4

S State St.

S Michigan Ave.

Oak St.

Oak St.



Phi Sigma Kappa Haunted House

Alumni Building

A celebration, not a mourning

Students and staff honor Día de los Muertos



Wil Roy
Interim Reporter

Día de los Muertos, also known as Day of the Dead, has been around for many centuries. This year, the celebration takes place from Thursday, Oct. 31, to Saturday, Nov. 2.

Ferris business administration junior and Sigma Lambda Gamma member Lezley Rodriguez recognizes the importance of Día de los Muertos.

"It is a day to remember all the deceased people in your life," Rodriguez said.

Día de los Muertos is a tradition unlike most. Rooted in ancient Aztec cultures, it is celebrated primarily in Mexico and Guatemala.

Día de los Muertos celebrates death, instead of mourning it. People set out altars to place many things reminding them of their deceased loved ones. The key to this celebration is remembering their spirits live on and within you.

Ferris Spanish program coordinator Dr. Eric Warner celebrates by setting an altar by his office for people to put their personal things on to celebrate a loved one's life. He said he really began to celebrate Día de los Muertos when his grandfather died, and his spouse was the one who brought this celebration into his home.

According to Warner and Rodriguez, a couple different events will be held on campus to honor the holiday.

Warner is helping to put on a festival for Día de los Muertos 10 a.m. — 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, at the West Campus Community Center. The festival will have free food and altars.

Members of Sigma Lambda Gamma (including Rodriguez) and Sigma Lambda Beta are also hosting a Day of the Dead Ball 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, in UCB 202B and 202C. The ball will include a dinner, dance, altar and a presentation to inform people about Día de los Muertos. This event is free of charge, and open to the public, but you must RSVP.



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager



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SPORTS

“The support from everyone has been amazing. I feel like I have 30 other families.”
- Maddie Fouts - See page 11 for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

Mayhew gets his shot in the NHL

#GerryTime in full effect for Minnesota Wild

Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

Gerald Mayhew — for those who do not know — is one of Ferris hockey’s all-time greats. At Ferris, his spectacular plays, high energy and clutch performances were known as #GerryTime. He has taken #GerryTime to the pros with him and now all the way to the NHL, one 12 former Ferris players to do so.

He appeared in his first NHL game at center for the Minnesota Wild Tuesday, Oct. 15, against the Toronto Maple Leafs. They lost 4-2, and Mayhew saw a little more than ten minutes of ice time.

Even though Mayhew was limited in minutes, he still found a way to give the team a spark. With less than two minutes left in the game, Mayhew was in the right place at the right time and knocked in a goal.

“Exciting time for me, I was a little nervous, but I had some of my family there, which was great. It was a surreal moment. Every kid who plays hockey has that dream of playing in the NHL. Just lucky to play in an NHL game,” Mayhew said.

This spring, Mayhew signed a two-way contract with the Minnesota Wild organization, meaning he can be called up to Minnesota in the NHL or sent back down to the Iowa Wild, the AHL affiliate, at any time. The biggest difference other than the level of play is the salary. When playing for Iowa, he makes a certain salary, and when he is called to play in the big leagues, his salary increases.



Gerald Mayhew

Early last week, Mayhew received that call from Minnesota after starting the first four games with Iowa. In just four games for Iowa, he had three goals and three assists. Minnesota thought it was time after

their rocky 1-4 start to make the call and pull #GerryTime up from the AHL, and it paid off.

“I was definitely pumped about it. It was a late goal, and I was in the right place at the right time,” Mayhew said. “Pretty special to score your first goal in your first game, not many people do that. Very special that my family was there and got to witness it.”

He started playing for the Iowa Wild in 2017 after his senior season at Ferris, where he only appeared in 17 games but had six goals and one assist. His first full season in 2017-2018, he played in 72 games and had 16 goals with 16 assists. His third year, he played in 71 games and recorded 27 goals and 33 assists. Every year he kept working and getting better. The key to his success was working hard and never giving up.

“Went right to Iowa after Ferris and the playing time wasn’t that much to start out,” Mayhew said. “Had to work my way up, and I never gave up. A good message to other players that are getting overlooked and not much given to them: just keep working hard, and anything can happen.”

Being an undrafted player from a small school gives Mayhew that blue-collar work ethic and perspective.

“Yes, it sucks when people overlook you, I definitely have a chip on my shoulder,” Mayhew said. “It motivates me and helps me to work harder. When you just grind and keep working hard, your coaches and teammates will take notice, and you can benefit from it. It certainly has benefited me.”

With the NHL call-up, Mayhew’s role has shifted a bit. Last year he played 71 games for Iowa and recorded career highs



Torch file photo

Gerald Mayhew played for the Bulldogs from 2013-2017 and left as Ferris’ all-time leading playoff point scorer. He now plays for the Minnesota Wild in the NHL and scored in his debut Tuesday, Oct. 15.

for goals (27) assists (33), points (60), penalty minutes (51), power-play goals (9), shorthanded goals (2), plus-minus rating (+15) and shots (200). He also led the team in goals, plus-minus rating and shots.

As a member of the Minnesota Wild, his role has changed. In his first two games, he’s seen about 17 minutes of ice time total, scoring one goal during which.

“For Iowa this year I was starting, on the power play kill and playing 20 plus minutes a game. Now, it’s tough, I played six minutes the other night, so I am sitting on the bench for a while,” Mayhew said. “Something that I will have to get used to if I want to be successful in the NHL.

“You have to limit your mistakes and do the little things right, and everything else will take care of itself. This league wants you to produce, so I have always been able to do that and produce. So, I just need to keep doing what I’ve been doing the past six years. Keep working hard and getting on the ice after practice.”

One thing for sure: Mayhew has always been able to produce, especially going back to his days as a Ferris Bulldog.

Over his four-year career at Ferris, he participated in 150 games. He played in a total of 80 wins along with an Elite 8

appearance in 2015-2016. He had a total of 52 goals, 67 assists and 119 points in his career.

His best year came during his junior stint when he helped the Bulldogs to an NCAA Regional Finals appearance and their first WCHA Tournament Championship in team history. He led the team in goals for three years and was named to the WCHA second team his junior year and then named to the first team as a senior.

He found motivation in the success he found at Ferris after starting on the fourth line as a freshman. Mayhew said he got a shot to start near the end of his freshman season and started on first line the last 10 or so games.

“We made the tourney that year, and I had a great playoff run,” Mayhew said. “What I took from Ferris is just being at a small school; it’s not a Big Ten school or anything like that. But we had a bunch of guys willing to work and buy into coach, and if you can do that, you’ll have a lot of success.”

Mayhew is just beginning his first year of the two-year two-way contract with the Wild. But for now, you can catch the 26-year-old Ferris alum center wearing No. 26 for the Minnesota Wild in the NHL. In their upcoming games, they will play Nashville on Thursday and Los Angeles on Saturday.

WEEKEND SCORECARD

Football

Oct. 19 - Ferris 44, Northwood 17

Women’s Soccer

Oct. 18 - Ferris 4, Wisconsin-Parkside 1
Oct. 19 - Ferris 7, Purdue Northwest 0

Hockey

Oct. 18 - Ferris 3, Miami (Ohio) 4
Oct. 19 - Ferris 3, Miami 1

Ferris signs deed to GLIAC

Win over Northwood extends Ferris' conference win streak to 20

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

The undefeated, No. 2 nationally ranked Ferris football took on the winless Timberwolves of Northwood Saturday, Oct. 19, and posted another commanding win, 44-17.

Despite the fact Northwood has not secured a victory against Ferris since 2012, there was distinct tension on the field contributing to six unsportsmanlike conduct calls and three personal fouls throughout the game. Ferris was responsible for all personal fouls and three unsportsmanlike conducts, two of them called on senior defensive back Alex Thomas.



Tony Annese

On the sidelines, Ferris head coach Tony Annese voiced his displeasure with his players' involvement, and said he wants his players focused on themselves, not the other team.

"It's very important to focus on the things that you need to do as a player on a team to help your team be successful and not get caught up in anything else," Annese said. "I don't know what's going on out there, they were talking, we were talking, I don't care. I really don't care. What I do care about is for our team to play the way we need to play to be as good as we are capable of being."

The obvious underdog at 0-6 entering the game, Northwood started strong, scoring on their first drive to put the pressure on the Bulldogs.

"They've played everybody tough this whole year," Annese said. "They don't care, truthfully, what their record is, they just play for the right reasons and they play hard and I knew they were going to be like that."

Ferris answered with a touchdown from junior running back Marvin Campbell, which opened the floodgates that led to a total of six touchdowns.

Ferris ended with 484 yards of offense, 221 of those coming from carries. Junior running backs Tyler Minor and Campbell led the rushing game Saturday, Minor with 64 yards and one touchdown, Campbell with 35 yards and two touchdowns.

Senior quarterback Jayru Campbell took the start again



Photo by: Cora Hall | Sports Editor

Sophomore wide receiver Sy Barnett pulls off yet another acrobatic catch for the Bulldogs Saturday, Oct. 19. Barnett had four catches for 132 yards in the 44-17 win over Northwood.

and completed 8-of-17 passes but still managed to gain 239 yards from the eight completions. His longest was a 76-yard touchdown pass to sophomore wide receiver Sy Barnett.

"It's a comfortable feeling I think, for Sy and the receivers particularly, that [Campbell's] a guy that wants to throw the ball down field," Annese said.

Barnett, who accumulated 132 yards on four catches, led the team in receiving yards for the second game in a row. However, Barnett doesn't care much whether it's him or another player who gains the yards, as long as it's a team effort.



Sy Barnett

"Honestly, I really don't care about the games I have, it's dependent on a team win," Barnett said. "The games before the past couple games we've just been running the ball very effectively, so you can't really complain when you're putting up high numbers and our team's just rolling."

There's not a team, I think in this entire country that can stop our run game."

Ferris defense once again showed their consistency, holding Northwood to only 215 yards of total offense and only 5-of-18 third down conversions. Sophomore defensive tackle Jordan Jones and senior defensive end Austin Edwards each came up with a sack. Senior defensive back

Omari McCauley and sophomore defensive back Jovan Bayless each caught an interception in the win.

McCauley and the defense have a "completely different swagger" this year, coming out with the mentality they have to make every play after last year's disappointing end to the season. The bond between the defense, welcoming in freshmen and transfers has also contributed to their success, according to McCauley.

"The willingness for the guys that have already been here to just open up and embrace them and show them how we do things at Ferris State, while also allowing them to be who they are and come here and just combine all our energy into one," McCauley said.

With only three GLIAC and regular season games left, Annese said doing the little things better will be the difference for the team.

"If this team can bring some attention to detail in our work weeks, we've got a chance to be really good," Annese said. "I know that sounds kind of funny and negative being 7-0, but we've got a high standard for how we play and we've certainly got to do some little things a little bit better."

The Bulldogs will return for another home game 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, against Saginaw Valley State University, who is led by former Ferris assistant coach Ryan Brady.

More than a team

Ferris women's soccer rolls to senior day victory as senior Maddie Fouts overcomes adversity

Brendan Samuels
Torch Reporter

Senior day is a tradition for all Ferris athletes. Parents walk their players onto the field and honor their accomplishments. But for Ferris women's soccer senior midfielder Maddie Fouts, something was missing.

Fouts' father was absent from the celebrations Sunday, Oct. 20, as he recovered from surgery. Fouts didn't worry too much, as a pregame FaceTime call with dad helped ease her into the matchup against the University of Purdue Northwest, in which she started.

"He wanted more than anything to be here," Fouts said. "Seeing that we're all working hard and winning, I'm sure he's just happy for that. I just know that he's here in spirit. The support from everyone has been amazing. I feel like I have 30 other families."

Fouts got involved in the Bulldogs 7-0 victory over Purdue Northwest, assisting on Ferris senior defender Tia VanSuilichem's goal.

"It feels really good to get involved on senior day," Fouts said. "Not



Maddie Fouts



Photo by: Cora Hall | Sports Editor

Senior midfielder Maddie Fouts walks with her mother, Jan, and sister, Rachel — a Ferris soccer alum — during senior day ceremonies her father had to miss as he recovers from his surgery.

Soccer | see page 12

Volleyball

Oct. 18 - Ferris 3, Walsh 1
Oct. 19 - Ferris 3, Rockhurst 2
Ferris 0, Missouri-St. Louis 3

Men's Basketball

Oct. 19 - Ferris 101, Muskegon CC 59
Oct. 20 - Ferris 105, Alumni 84

Women's Tennis

Oct. 19 - Ferris 4, Ashland 3
Oct. 20 - Ferris 0, Wayne State 7



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Friday, Oct. 25:

- Women's Tennis at GLIAC Tournament
- Women's Soccer at Davenport at 4 p.m.
- Women's Tennis vs. Northwood at 6:45 p.m. at GLIAC Tournament
- Volleyball at Wayne State at 7p.m.
- Hockey vs. Northern Michigan at 7:07 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 26:

- Men's Cross Country at GLIAC Championships
- Women's Cross Country at GLIAC Championships
- Women's Tennis at GLIAC Tournament
- Football vs SVSU at 1 p.m.
- Volleyball at GVSU at 4p.m.
- Hockey vs Northern Michigan 6:07 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 27:

- Women's Tennis at GLIAC Tournament
- Women's Soccer at GVSU at 1 p.m.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Soccer Continued from page 11



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

Ferris' bench full of starters erupts in cheers after junior defender Sadie Pettinger scored her first collegiate goal against Purdue Northwest Sunday, Oct. 19.

even that it matters to score, but just being able to help my teammates feels good. Being involved like that is exciting."

The Bulldogs kept the pressure on Purdue-Northwest all day. VanSuilichem wasn't the only one involved offensively. Ferris sophomore forward Pia Nagel netted two goals, junior forward Mackenzie Dawes knocked in two goals, junior midfielder Bri Rogers added one goal and junior defender Sadie Pettinger scored one as well.



Tia VanSuilichem

"Maddie gave me a really good ball," VanSuilichem said. "It was nice to be able to get one for all the seniors, even the ones who don't start."

Pettinger's goal was her first in her college career, and the scene on the sideline exemplified just how close this team is. She found the back of the net late in the second half, and the bench – filled with Ferris'

starters – erupted.

"We're super close as a team, and we were cheering like crazy because it's her twenty-first birthday," VanSuilichem said. "It was really cool to see her get her first goal; it was nice to see other players get opportunities."

The Bulldogs picked up their eleventh win on the year over Purdue Northwest, after beating the University of Wisconsin-Parkside 4-1 just two days prior on Friday, Oct. 18.

Ferris now stands at 11-2-1 overall on the season and is on track to beat the win percentage posted by 2018's record-setting squad.

The Bulldogs now set their sights on a pair of away games starting at Davenport University for a 4 p.m. matchup Friday, Oct. 25. Ferris will then prepare for their biggest game of the season thus far as they travel to Grand Valley State University 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27 to take on the Lakers, who are undefeated in GLIAC play.



Top Dawg

Allyson Cappel

Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Photographer

Cora Hall Sports Editor

This week's Top Dawg brought a commanding presence to the net in the 2019 Midwest Region Crossover, throwing down 60 kills in just three games. If you haven't guessed already, it's senior outside hitter Allyson Cappel.

Ferris was the No. 1 seed for the GLIAC going into the tournament that featured competition from the GLVC and G-MAC. Going 2-1 on the weekend, the Bulldogs started with a 3-1 win over Walsh on Saturday, Oct. 19, and Cappel posted a double-double with 15 kills and a team-high 15 digs.

The Bulldogs faced a double-header on Sunday, taking home a victory in the first game of the day against No. 17 ranked Rockhurst (Missouri) in five sets. Cappel absolutely dominated the net in this game with 31 kills, a season-high. She also stayed consistent on defense, totaling 15 digs.

After two wins, Ferris got swept by Missouri-St. Louis, who went undefeated in the tournament. The game was closer than the 3-0 score reveals, with the first set going to 31-29. Cappel led the team in kills for the second game with 14 and added eight digs as well.

Cappel's performances earned her a spot on the All-Tournament team, which only included five other GLIAC players.

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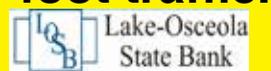
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OPINIONS

“If they can’t seem to figure out who keeps stealing stuff from cars in Lot 4, then what are they going to do in this situation?”

- Noah Poser - See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Noah Poser

Ferris State University has done plenty, especially lately, to try and improve the safety of campus. But have they done enough?

Campus safety is obviously a nationwide issue. I don't have to tell you that for you to understand that. Why? Because it is literally all over the news seven days a week, as a new story pops up seemingly minutes after we start to recoup from the last traumatizing occurrence.

For example, this past weekend, an Oregon high school football and track coach named Keanon Lowe, who also acts as a security guard at the school, managed to

disarm and talk down a student who looked to have the intention of wanting to shoot up a classroom in his high school.

And therein lies the problem. This was a very fortunate ending to this situation. It could have gone poorly but there was security in place to do that.

I don't want to raise concern, nor do I want to cause a panic. However, what security is there to prevent this from happening in our many classrooms at Ferris?

Before I continue, the DPS here at Ferris does an excellent job. But, if they can't seem to figure out who keeps stealing stuff

Campus safety

from cars in Lot 4, then what are they going to do in this situation? Again, I have a huge amount of respect for them and what they do, and hopefully they're never put into this sort of situation, but will they have enough help here at Ferris to make this sort of situation end as favorably as it did in the high school in Oregon.

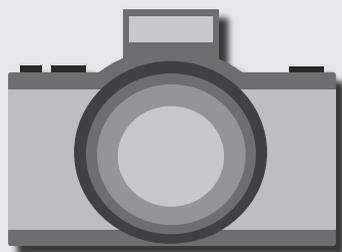
Think about how easy it is to enter Ferris campus and how easy it is to access buildings. If you're thinking long and hard about it, then stop. The answer is it's incredibly too easy. If you really wanted too, you could get into any building on campus with no

restrictions most times of the day. Also, you would be able to bring anything you want into any building on campus. That's due to the lack of metal detectors and such campus wide.

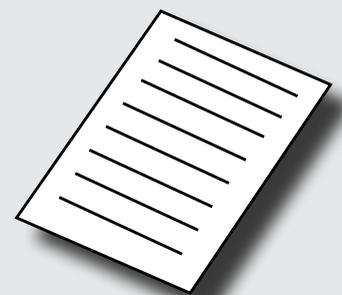
So yeah, Ferris has made great strides, especially in the last few months to try and improve campus safety.

But again, how much you can fault the leadership of the school I don't particularly know. But what I do know is that this campus can become much safer than it is right now ... and by a lot, at that.

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I want choice

The problem with the anti-abortion argument

The morning of Oct. 10, I was sitting in my office at work, checking the notifications on my phone while I had a cup of coffee, when I clicked on one from Twitter.

An anti-abortion group called “Created Equal” had tagged my college newspaper, this newspaper, and a number of other local media outlets in a tweet reminding them of a demonstration in the North Quad that day that would be showing video footage of an abortion procedure.

I inspected the message further and to say that I was appalled, to say that I was infuriated, wouldn't do my feelings in that moment justice.

I thought about that a lot over the course of the day. I went home and discussed it with my boyfriend, an equally upset Ferris alum. My skin was crawling and my blood boiling.

You don't know the histories and the stories of the women walking that campus. You don't know what they have been through, nor how your little show affects them.

We as women deserve better than being harassed in the place where we are paying to be educated, by people who think that they have any say at all over what happens to our bodies or in our lives.

I feel it's safe to assume that these so-called activists weren't handing out birth control or educating on how to access contraception – they never do, despite the overwhelming evidence that the way to actually lower abortion rates isn't shaming women on college campuses, but rather providing scientifically accurate sexual education and contraception to adolescents ages 13 and up.

There is a pandemic in this country regarding not only a lack of recognition of female bodily



Angela Graf
Guest Writer

autonomy, but a barrier to proper education and access to contraception.

75% of abortion patients in 2014 were below the federal poverty level, and that's not a coincidence.

And to make matters worse, we on the pro-choice side keep making the wrong arguments. Rape and incest are obviously abhorrent acts, and women struggling with pregnancy in the aftermath of these events deserve as much sensitivity as humanly possible, but when you insert those into the narrative as the main argument, you're diminishing the heart of what being pro-choice is: it's not wanting to be pregnant, and the freedom to make that decision.

It's women that aren't in a financial situation to raise a child.

It's teenagers that want to graduate high school without being bullied into dropping out.

It's college students that want to focus on their degree and career.

It's women coping with depression and mental illness.

It's victims of emotional, mental, physical and sexual abuse.

It's mothers that already have children - in fact, in 2014, 59% of women that underwent an abortion procedure had already given birth prior to that.

It's your friend.

Your sister.

Your mother.

It's 24% of women under the age of 45 – one in four.

These are not nameless, faceless villains, they are people with lives and dreams and goals, and for many, those don't include being pregnant or giving birth, and they shouldn't have to.

When you place the consequences of pregnancy solely on the woman, her body becomes a prison and her sex a burden.

I want the number of abortions to decrease as much as anybody, but I want that to happen for the right reasons.

I want women, and people in general, to have better access to contraception.

I want young people properly educated on sex and pregnancy.

I want programs in place to assist women that are pregnant but lack the resources to care for themselves during pregnancy, or for the child after giving birth.

I want children currently in the system to find homes.

But more than anything, I want to stop being told what to do with my body - whether that be the decision to partake in consensual sex, or the decision to not subject it to nine months, or sometimes a lifetime, of physical, emotional and financial hardship.

I want choice.

About the Author: Angela Graf graduated from Ferris with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2018 and currently resides in the greater Detroit area.

Meanwhile, in the middle of October

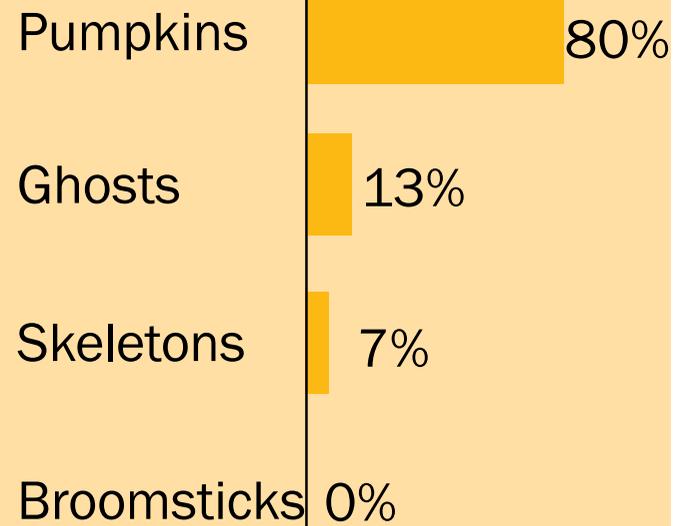


Cartoon by: Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor

TORCH POLL RESULTS

What symbol is the most synonymous with Halloween?

41 VOTES



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