



HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

STANDING PROUD

Veterans Day is a very prominent holiday, however it sometimes gets lost in the chaos between Halloween and Thanksgiving. Read up on how Ferris and its students make sure that doesn't happen.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 6

NOT IN OUR HOUSE

Volleyball has been killing it at home, jumping to an undefeated start. Could they keep the home magic alive against a pair of opponents? Find out in sports.

SPORTS | PAGE 11

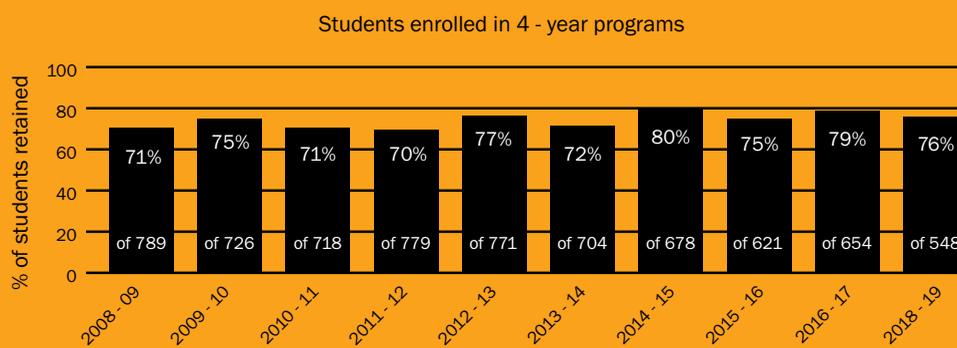
Retention rates on the rise

Measuring up

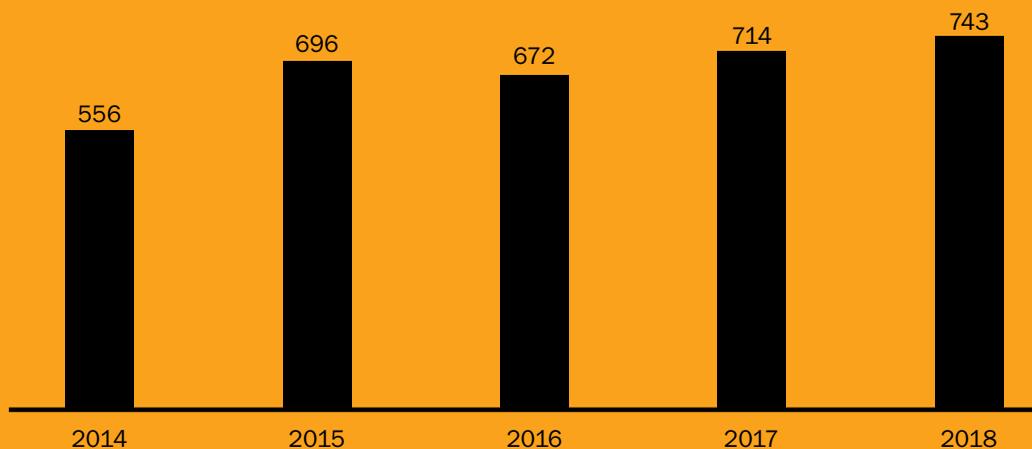
Average six year graduation rate by year



Fall - to - Fall first year retention rates



Hispanic student enrollment - Fall



The above information was gathered from the 2018 Ferris State University Factbook

Ferris still fails to gain more students, but retention and graduation rates are on a positive trend

Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

Ferris' six-year graduation rate has been on the rise over the past five years.

The last completed term with filed statistics was 2018. The graduation rate for these six-year completes was marked at 53%. This is combined with two and four-year programs.

During the two academic years prior to 2018 graduation rates were 49% and 50%, respectively. The graduation rate for these programs in six years has had an overall positive trend line.

"I am probably going to graduate within six years because I was put on a waiting list for my program and it basically set me back. I am even taking 16 credits trying to catch up,"

Ferris welding technology junior Jason Proctor said.

On the other hand, some students do not have to work as hard to graduate on time because of their community college experience before landing at Ferris.

"I will graduate in four years rather than in six because I gained credit throughout different community colleges. I am even able to take less than 15 credits this semester and still be on time to graduate." Ferris welding technology sophomore Peter Ferrier said.

Both students expressed how they will stay at the university because of the program and how advanced it is, especially for the price.

With higher statistics for graduation, student retention is a key component. Ferris is trying to help boost these numbers by retaining current students.

Another important factor is how many credits a student takes within a semester.

Ferris has been finding ways to help students stay and finish their degrees here. Of the retention statistics from 2018-19, only a combined total of 79% of first year (in any college) students were retained.

"[We] don't do retention, we do good things that cultivate interest, build relationships, excite people about learning more, and give a sense of purpose in terms of career direction," Ferris Dean of Retention and Student Success Jason Bentley said. "The university has been trying to message and nudge and doing some advising to encourage students to take 15 to 16 credit hours ... The average



Jason Bentley



Jason Proctor

Retention | see page 2

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NEWS

“Bill [Pulte] always felt that the trades were one of the most important aspects to the building business, but unfortunately it was not a ‘glamour’ job.”

- Karen Pulte - See below for story

Grant Siddall | News Editor | siddalg@ferris.edu

Cash for construction



Promotional photo

The Pulte Family Charitable Foundation presents their donation of \$1,000,000 to Ferris' construction technology and management program.

Ferris' construction technology and management program received a large charitable donation

Trenton Carlson
Torch Reporter

Ferris' construction technology and management program was recently gifted \$1 million from the Pulte Family Charitable Foundation.

The first \$700,000 will be used for a scholarship granted to students entering the construction management program while the remaining \$300,000 will be used to better the program.

The \$1 million donation to the program includes a \$700,000 award to establish the William J. Pulte Scholarship Endowment, which receives a match from The Ferris Foundation, as part of the Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge.

This brings the total value of the William J. Pulte Construction Scholarship Endowment to \$1.4 million.

The remaining \$300,000 will go to the Construction Man-

agement Experiential Technical Learning Endowment which impacts all students in the program, according to Ferris construction management professor Suzanne Miller.

The construction management program at Ferris is well known for its success and prosperity around Michigan, and this scholarship and donation duo may add to its reputation.

“I actually went online and Googled construction and trade schools in Michigan,” widow of Bill Pulte and spokesperson of the Pulte Family Charitable Foundation Karen Pulte said. “After visiting Ferris State and touring the facility and seeing all they had to offer, it felt like an immediate fit. Bill [Pulte] always felt that the trades were one of the most important aspects to the building business, but unfortunately it was not a ‘glamour’ job. That being said, less and less students were going into that field.”

The additional money in the program allows Ferris to improve the facilities, and to update technology required for the program.

Many students, as well as staff, are excited that the new money is being implemented into the branch of the school. It will allow the construction management group to grow as a whole and improve many aspects of their facility in addition to making the program more appealing to new students with the new scholarship available to students in their field.

Students in the construction program are also interested in where the money will go and have some expectations as to how the money will be used.

“I would like to see it go into maybe some scholarships, but also newer technology in our atrium, with a printer and some newer technology,” Ferris construction management senior Tyler White said. “Construction is headed more toward technology-based career.”

If you are interested in the charity or the scholarship, more information can be found via the Ferris website.

Retention

Continued from page 1

credit per semester increase and that is a positive toward graduating on time and not spending the money for an extra semester of classes.”

The average credit hours of the previous school year were 14.03 credits overall, but the average for undergraduates was only 13.89 credit hours. These averages show how students start to move their regular two and four-year programs to five and six-year programs.



Peter
Ferrier

Retaining students that are in more advanced programs like welding technology, video game design, and automotive technology is eas-

ier for the university because they are rare courses within the United States.

Bentley said when students do choose to leave, the university questions what happened to inspire the move, and what could they do to prevent students from dropping out or transferring. The department asks what happened and what could they do to change their mind.

“But when we usually ask these questions, they are typically already home, or they already made their mind,” Bentley said.

Information from a Ferris Forward program presentation illustrated three main reasons why students leave the university: No prior intention to stay at Ferris, personal challenges, and/or financial barriers.

“This is what our founder challenged, to permit and encourage a student who has the ability to do four years of scheduled work in three years,” Bentley said.

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WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Grant Siddall
News Editor

Bamako, Mali

A terrorist attack killed at least 53 military personnel and one civilian at a military post in Northern Mali on Saturday, Nov. 2. Mali government spokesperson Yaya Sangare said that in addition to the 54 people killed that there was "considerable material damage." ISIS has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Original article by Reuters, Nov. 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Hong Kong

Protestors and police continue to clash in Hong Kong on Saturday, Nov. 2 as tear gas was used to disperse protestors in the cities financial district. Many protestors also have begun wearing masks to protest China's new ban on face coverings. The protests in Hong Kong have now been happening for 21 weeks and do not seem to be coming to an end.

Original article by Austin Ramzy and Tiffany May, Nov. 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Iran

The Iranian government has been scaling back compliance with their nuclear deal after President Trump withdrew from the 2015 deal. Iran announced on Monday, Nov. 4 that it has started using advanced centrifuges, bringing the country closer to being able to produce nuclear weapons. Iran has said that they are willing to reverse its buildup if the European nations involved in the nuclear sanctions were able to convince the US to lighten its sanctions.

Original article by Richard Pérez-Peña, Nov. 4, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Tal Abyad, Syria

At least 13 people were killed and 30 more injured when a car bomb exploded in a market in Tal Abyad, Syria on Saturday, Nov. 2. Tal Abyad is one of two major border cities under attack by Turkey as they try to capture the territory from the Kurdish militia. The city has been under attack since Oct. 9 when Turkish and allied Syrian forces attacked the area after President Trump's abrupt decision to remove US troops from the region.

Original article by Reuters, Nov. 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Lock your doors

Grant Siddall
News Editor

cited for being a minor in possession of marijuana in lot 4.

How to upgrade your probation 101

Oct. 28, 8:16 p.m., A suspect was arrested at 14000 Block Northland Dr. for driving on suspended/revoked/refused license, as well as obstructing justice and a probation violation.

Lock your cars

Oct. 27, 9:30 p.m., a report of larceny was filed in lot 61. The case was closed due to a lack of leads.

Lock your dorms, too

Oct. 27, 9:30 p.m., a report of larceny was filed at Bond Hall. The case was closed due to a lack of leads.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 354 tickets from the dates of Oct. 27 to Nov. 2, totaling \$5,765.

Still not legal for you

Oct. 28, 8:16 p.m., a suspect was cited for being a minor in possession of marijuana in Vandercook Hall.

Not Legal for you either

Nov. 2, 9:51 p.m., a suspect was

NEWS BRIEFS

Grant Siddall
News Editor

Grocery Bingo

Come join Entertainment Unlimited for grocery bingo at UC 202 from 8 to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13. Participants will play bingo for a chance to win a bag of groceries. This event is free for students and the public.

Student Issues Panel

Come voice your concerns at the annual Student Issues Panel hosted by the Student Government Associations. Students can come ask questions, voice concerns and present ideas to the administration. This event will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 12 from 6 to 7 p.m. at UC 202.

All Bodies Dance Party

Join the LGBTQ+ Resource Center for a half hour dance party from 11 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14 at the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. There will be accessories and areas for students who wish to attend without dancing.

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

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

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



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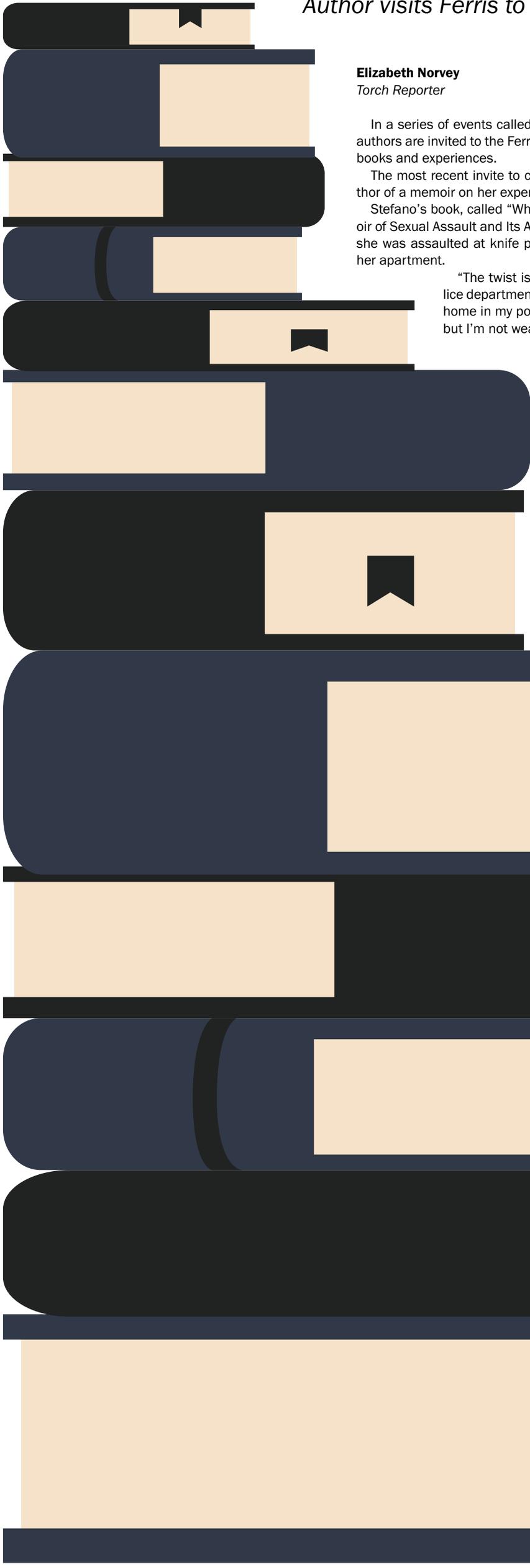
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Literature in Person

Author visits Ferris to teach students how to write about their own trauma



Elizabeth Norvey
Torch Reporter

In a series of events called "Literature in Person," various authors are invited to the Ferris' campus to speak about their books and experiences.

The most recent invite to campus was Karen Stefano, author of a memoir on her experience with sexual assault.

Stefano's book, called "What a Body Remembers: A Memoir of Sexual Assault and Its Aftermath," tells the story of how she was assaulted at knife point at 19 years old outside of her apartment.

"The twist is that I work for the campus police department and my job is to escort women home in my police uniform to keep them safe, but I'm not wearing my police uniform and got assaulted," Stefano said.

The memoir also discusses Stefano's career in the criminal justice field following the assault.

"And then it shows my crash course in the criminal justice system, then it's fast forwards to the paradoxical time in my life when I actually became a criminal defense lawyer. Fast forward again to 2014, where I still have PTSD and I track down assailant from 30 years earlier and what I find out

about him kind of changes my world," Stefano said.

Stefano said it is important for people to read the book because it educates people on the criminal justice system and provides a sense of empowerment gained from sharing the story of a sexual assault from the perspective of a survivor.

"It's an unusual story that I went to law school to become a prosecutor to put away bad guys, I ended up doing the opposite, I ended up representing those bad guys and caring about them deeply and seeing their humanity in spite of their very significant flaws," Stefano said.

The story was moving to students who attended the event, and many expressed the topic was a very important one to focus on, as well as the stories behind those experiences.

"I came here because I want to learn more about writing. Being an English major and being an English teacher someday, I want to learn more about how people communicate through writing and how they use language to tell their own stories, and this sounded like it would be a really impactful story, and it was, so I'm really glad that I came," Ferris English education junior Colin Templeman said.

Other students came to be able to show their support for a sexual assault survivor.

"I wanted to come out and support the series [of Literature in Person Events], and the topic is really interesting and a really relevant topic for today. Assault is a huge, huge thing, and so many women are just now coming out, and so many women aren't coming out. I thought it was a really powerful story, and I wanted to learn more," Ferris English senior Paige Brady said.

In the spring semester, Poet M.L. Liebler is expected to visit for National Poetry Month in April. Look for signs around campus and find the event on the Ferris website for more information around the end of the Poetry Month celebrations.

Tower of Terror

Wind and snow will not stop the History Task Force from putting on a show



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Students hand out candy at the Tower of Terror on Oct. 31.

Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

While Ferris' Carillon Tower usually just plays an automated tune or two familiar to students as the clock strikes the hour, it's capable of more, and on Halloween it became the Tower of Terror.

The Tower of Terror event was held directly outside the Ferris' Music Center with the events main focus on the Carillon Tower itself.

Unbeknownst to many students, the Carillon Tower has the ability to be played like any other keyboard, and during the event a pianist played a variety of spooky songs such as the theme from The Addams Family and Harry Potter.

"We were looking for events that gave us a chance to play the tower, so this seemed like a really fun event that we could get the community and evolve students to have some fun and play some scary music on the tower" Ferris' Associate Director of Advancement and Prospect Management MaryKay Maclver said.

Turnout for the event was compromised by poor weather. A paltry 34 degrees Fahrenheit felt like 27 degrees thanks to cold winds and snow showers.

Students like Ferris pre-medical student Grant Klairter and others, many dressed in costumes, lined the circle of the Carillon Tower handing candy to students who happened to walk by during their 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. event.

"We were supposed to hand out candy to lit-

tle kids, but now we are handing out candy to students who are walking in the snow now. It's been fun for us to be out here," Klairter said.

The event was hosted by the History Task Force, but other groups played important roles as well. Ferris' Department of Public Safety handed out more than nine dozen donuts to people working and walking by the event, and the Student Alumni Gold Club helped pass out candy.

"With doing these events with the tower, we hope it will highlight the tower so it can raise awareness for it because the tower needs some funds so it can be repaired. It needs to have the motor repointed and the capstone needs to get replaced," Maclver said.

Carillon Tower was built in 1968 after student government allotted \$5,000 for its construction, and later renovated in 1988 when the real bells in the Tower were replaced by digital bells that are available to play via a piano that hooks up to the tower.

The Music Center and History Task Force plan to team up again and host more events with the tower.

For the holiday season, they plan on playing Christmas music during midday so people can hear the tower while eating lunch in the University Center.

Later in the school year Maclver would like to get a group of piano-knowledged students to play the tower every once in a while to spruce up the moral of the North Quad.



MaryKay Maclver

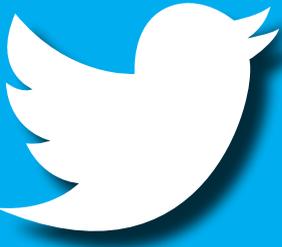


Grant Klairter



Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer

Students hand out candy at the Tower of Terror on Oct. 31.



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LIFESTYLES

“Veterans Day is a special day for me because it is a time to recognize all who have served our country.” - Jacob Schrot - See below for story

Meg Lewton | Lifestyles Editor | lewtonm1@ferris.edu

Standing proud



Photo courtesy of Larry Bogus

Ferris history junior and US Marine Corps veteran Larry Bogus uses Veterans Day to remind himself of the sacrifices members of the military make every day.

The importance of Veterans Day

Lily Brown
Torch Reporter



Larry Bogus

Ferris has a few resources and events on campus that support and honor students who were or are active duty for any branch of the military. The most focused resource on veterans is the Veterans Resource Center, located in the University Center past the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services.

“I joined the Marine Corps because of history,” said Ferris history junior and U.S. Marine Corps veteran Larry Bogus said. “Also, my uncle was a Marine, too, and I thought it would be cool for me to outrank him when I got done, and I did. For schooling, for being five years active duty, I get 100% for the GI bill. My school is paid for: tuition,

books and housing.”

Veterans Day is important for many people, especially Veterans. It is a way for a community to come together to honor those brave enough to risk their lives for our country.

“Veterans Day, to me, reminds me of why I put

Veterans Day, to me, reminds me of why I put my uniform on.

- Larry Bogus

my uniform on. I am part of the American Legion, so going, seeing and hearing the stories from past generations that served in Vietnam, Korea and Desert Storm, it gives me a lot of respect for the men and women who take the time out of their life to put forth their ability to sacrifice themselves,”

Bogus said.

It is crucial to hear stories of the past, honor those whose lives were lost and respect those who are still around to tell their stories.



Jacob Schrot

Ferris Assistant Director of Veterans Services Jacob Schrot currently serves as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army. February 2020 will mark his 16th year of service.

“Veterans Day is a special day for me because it is a time to recognize all who have served our country,” Schrot said. “It is a time to reunite with brothers and sisters that we have served with.”

Schrot also recognizes the days leading up to Veterans Day because Nov. 9, 2001, was the day of his graduation from basic training, and the Marine Corps' birthday is Nov. 10.

Ferris has at least two events to honor Veterans Day. One is a Veterans Day Concert hosted by Director of Instrumental Concert Ensembles Scott Cohen. This concert will be Sunday, Nov. 10.

The second event is a Veterans Day Breakfast celebration hosted by President Eisler's office and the Veterans Resource Center, on Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11.

Media Minute

Ferris theatre production of "9 to 5"



Photo courtesy of Kaitlyn Kirchner

Dolly Parton is so talented that she even helps write musicals.

Ferris Theatre presented "9 to 5" Thursday, Oct. 31, through Sunday, Nov. 3, in Williams Auditorium. "9 to 5" was originally a book written by Patricia Resnick, but Dolly Parton helped write the music and the lyrics for the musical. This musical was originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt in April 2009.

This musical is about three women who came together to overtake their sexist boss, who had it out for the women who worked in his office.

"9 to 5" had catchy songs, great use of props, and great singing and dancing. It even spooked you a little bit with the starter pistol they used. This musical was not only singing and dancing; instead, it was a way to teach the audience a great message through perfor-



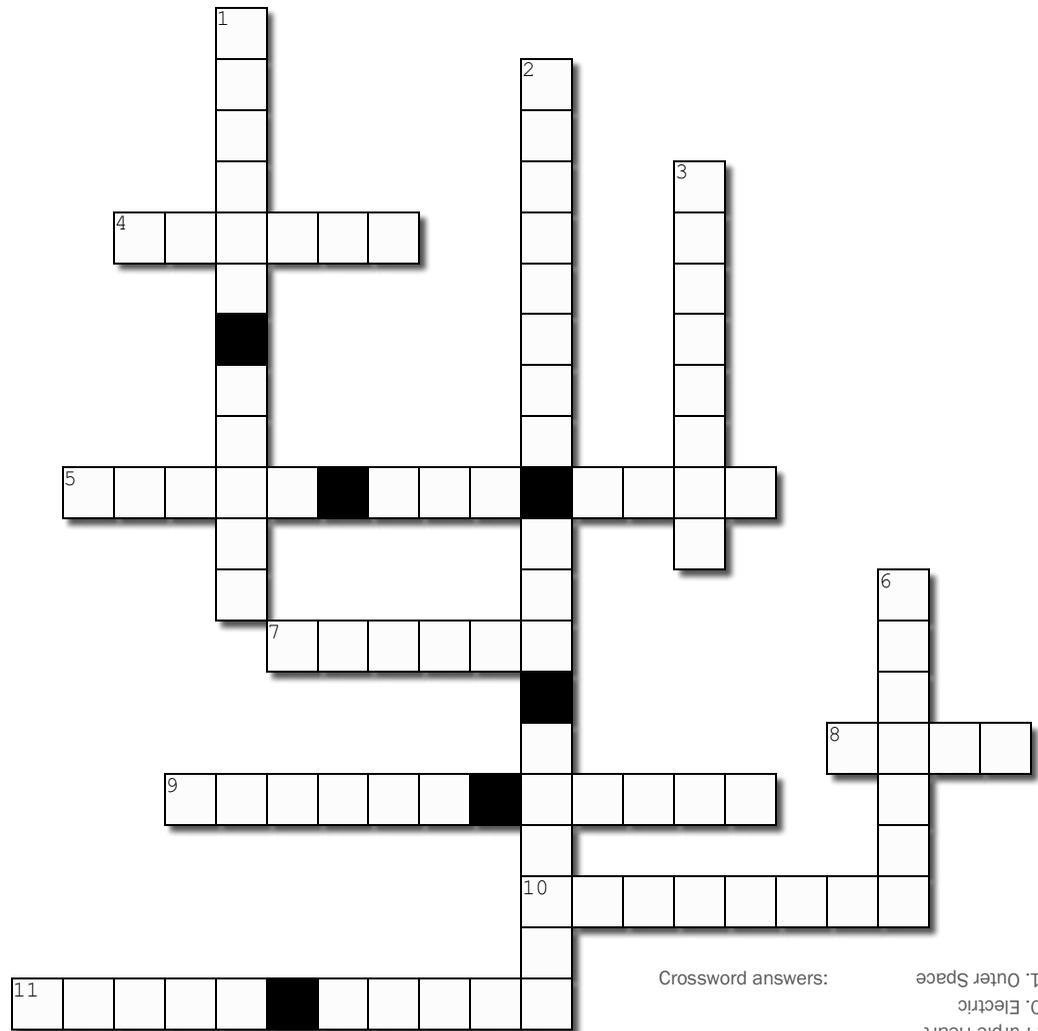
mance.

I did not know what this musical was going to be about before I attended. Leaving the musical, however, my eyes were opened. I never realized how difficult the working conditions were back in the day for women. I always heard stories and jokes, but after seeing this musical, it showed me how little say women had in the office.

It was in a joking matter what happened with their boss in the end, but it just shows the measures women would have to go through just to be heard in the office and just to have a fair chance.

Color me entertained

See how many Crayola crayon colors you can name with this crossword!



- Crossword answers:
- 1. Granny Smith Apple
 - 2. Macaroni and Cheese
 - 3. Chestnut
 - 4. Canary
 - 5. Robin Egg Blue
 - 6. Pacific
 - 7. Orchid
 - 8. Wild
 - 9. Purple Heart
 - 10. Electric
 - 11. Outer Space

Across

4. This vibrant crayon shares its name with a winged critter.
5. This teal crayon shares its spring-inspired name with a type of Easter candy.
7. This pink crayon is named after a common, delicate flower.
8. This word precedes three shades, ___ Blue Yonder, ___ Strawberry and ___ Watermelon
9. This shade is named after a prestigious military decoration.
10. ___ Lime
11. This deep gray-blue shade is named after a mysterious, vastly unexplored place.

Down

1. ___ Apple
2. This orange crayon is named after a popular pasta.
3. This brown color is named after something you roast on an open fire.
6. This shade is named after a body of water: ___ Blue

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The new crib on the block



Photo by: William Byrd | Production Assistant

Eight Thirty Water Tower apartments, located at 830 Water Tower Road, are well liked by many of their residents. This is the first semester the apartments have been open.

Eight Thirty Water Tower apartments are officially open

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

The newest apartment complex in Big Rapids has some Ferris students comparing their old dorm room to a jail cell.

Ferris criminal justice sophomore Max Citro went from living in Brophy hall and subsequently an off-campus house, to Eight Thirty Water Tower apartments. He claims the experience has already been a world of a difference.

"Water Tower is obviously night and day compared to the less than adequate housing that is Ferris Housing. Living in a tiny concrete box that has been occupied by hundreds of kids before you on a jail mattress with another person in a loft that you had to buy and build yourself all while being treated like a little kid by RA staff sucks," Citro said.

Citro has thoroughly enjoyed his experience at Eight Thirty Water Tower and plans to return the following year.

"I have nothing but great things to say about Eight Thirty Water Tower. The staff and property managers are always

helpful and want to make sure that your needs are met," Citro said. "The buildings are obviously brand new and come fully furnished with everything from flat screen TVs to the memory foam mattresses. Even the walls, in my opinion, are very well sound proofed so you really don't hear much neighbor wise. Not to mention the clubhouse area that has study rooms, free printing, desktops to use and a place to relax."

Many residents and those who have toured the apartments have found the amenities and the fact that the apartments come furnished to be a big perk. The prices of each unit can vary from the style of unit selected as well as the time of year it is leased.

The Arden, a one bedroom and one-bathroom 509 square foot apartment is currently at \$1149 per month. The Bexley, a two bedroom and one bathroom 761 square foot apartment is at \$629 per room, per month. The Bradford is another two bedroom and one bathroom 794 square foot apartment with a different layout that is at the same rate as the Bexley. The final style they offer is the Derby a four bedroom

and two bathroom which is \$499 per room, per month.

For Ferris health administration junior Hunter Ward, feeling safe was a big priority when choosing where to live.

"Last year I lived at Oakwood Townhomes. Although I liked Oakwood, it was not very welcoming and I also ran into a lot of issues with feeling safe where I lived, which I find very important when choosing somewhere to live," Ward said.

Ward has found the atmosphere at Eight Thirty Water Towers to be very welcoming.

"I absolutely love Eight Thirty Water Tower and I would recommend anyone to live there," Ward said. "They are always having events in the office to improve the community and get to know residents which I love."

For more information on Eight Thirty Water Towers, visit their website at www.830watertower.com. Those interested can stop by their leasing office on 830 Water Tower Rd. from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday or 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

TORCH TUNES

Modern and lyrical



Grant Siddall
News Editor

Many old-school hip-hop purists like to attack the message, creativity and lyricism of modern rap. Although the genre's radio prevalence has shifted towards favoring creative production and catchy hooks over lyrical hip-hop, it hasn't meant a decline in lyrical, story driven rap. This is the golden age of music where we have more music

available to us in seconds via the internet than our ancestors could have even dreamed of. Additionally, for artists, creating and sharing music is easier than ever, resulting in more music being made than ever, including an abundance of lyric driven rap.

Here are some of my favorite lyric focused rap songs that have been recently released:

Georgia – Kevin Abstract

Abstract, a founding member of Brockhampton, frequently addresses his homosexuality through his music, but this song specifically focuses on his struggles growing up gay in Georgia, as well as his transition to stardom. It's introspective and raw, even for Abstract, who hasn't been shy about addressing personal issues in Brockhampton's music or as a solo artist.

Favorite lyric: "I often question, I often wonder, If I told this class I like the n— that's sittin' in the back, how bad would they make me suffer?"

State of the Union – Jim Jones ft. Rick Ross and Marc Scibilia

Jim Jones may be best known for "We Fly High (Ballin')," but he transcends that with some thoughtful insight on his political beliefs on State of the Union. Jones touches on Trump, the wall, legalizing marijuana and more. It's still braggadocious, it still has stereotypical hip-hop elements — violent lyrics and lyrics about drug dealing from both Jones and Ross — but the social commentary is the best part of the song.

Favorite lyric: "You could build a wall as tall as the sky (to the moon), we all know the coke's still gonna fall from the sky."

Follow God – Kanye West

Kanye made his transition into gospel music with his "JESUS IS KING" album, which is beautiful and masterfully produced. While the complexity of the album doesn't necessarily come from the lyrics, songs like Follow God, which uses Kanye's own relationship with his father to address a larger issue of Christian hypocrisy, provide social commentary and criticism on an album dedicated to praising Jesus.

Favorite lyric: "Screamin' at my dad and he told me it ain't Christ like, but nobody never tell you when you're bein' like Christ"

Middle Child – J. Cole

It's hard to narrow this down to one J. Cole song, and while Middle Child isn't J. Cole's most raw, socially critical or even best lyrical work, it's one of the newest additions to nearly a decade of music he has released with strong messages. J. Cole addresses the cycle of jail, taking care of his friends and family after reaching stardom, as well as his place within hip-hop throughout the song, all while keeping the song commercially attractive to a variety of listeners with a catchy hook and instrumental.

Favorite lyric: "I wish that he had more guidance for real. Too many n— in cycle of jail, spendin' they birthdays inside of cell."

Event calendar

Wednesday

Nov. 6



Jobs - n - Java
Location: CLACS Career Center
Time: 2 - 5 p.m.

Five Star Event: From Rubber Monsters to Digital Cowboys with Bill Zahn

Location: UCB 202
Time: 7 - 8 p.m.

Harmony Project Body Image Panel

Location: IRC 120
Time: 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday

Nov. 7

CALM: Conquering Anxiety through Life Management

Location: Birkam Health Center
Time: 11 a.m. - noon

Fall 2019 Graduation Fair

Location: UC 202 A, B and C
Time: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Symphony Band Fall Concert

Location: Williams Auditorium
Time: 8 - 9 p.m.



Friday

Nov. 8



Jobs - n - Java
Location: CLACS Career Center
Time: 2 - 5 p.m.

Sunday

Nov. 10

17th Annual Veterans Day Band Concert

Location: Williams Auditorium
Time: 4 p.m.



Monday

Nov. 11



Veterans Day Mental Health 101: Setting Goals for Progress Not Perfection

Location: Birkam Health Center
Time: 1 - 2 p.m.

Launching New Ventures: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Series

Location: CLACS Career Center
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Nov. 12

Coping Skills 101: How to Deal When You Can't Get Even

Location: Birkam Health Center
Time: 11 a.m. - noon

So, This is My Life Now: Adjusting to Your New Life as a College Student

Location: Birkam Health Center
Time: 1 - 2 p.m.

Examining the Impact of Privilege

Location: FLITE 405
Time: 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Student Issues Panel

Location: UC 202 C
Time: 6 - 7 p.m.



For more events, check out calendar.ferris.edu



The first snow

Winter made an early arrival Thursday, Oct. 31, when the first snowfall of the year hit Big Rapids.

Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

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SPORTS

“This game was somewhat of an awakening for us.”
- Alison Chesterfield - See page below for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

Conference crisis



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Freshman forward Payton Price dribbles the ball downfield against Saginaw Valley State University.

The North has fallen

Ferris unbothered by snow, brings home win to stay undefeated

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Ferris football made the trip to the deep north of Houghton, where there was snow on the ground already, but it didn't stop them from bringing home their first shutout of the season.

The No. 2 nationally ranked Bulldogs defeated the Michigan Tech Huskies 52-0 to make their record a perfect 9-0. The Huskies fell to 4-4 overall, and only 2-4 in GLIAC play. Ferris head coach Tony Annese said the inclement weather didn't faze the Bulldogs entering the matchup, and it clearly showed.

“Everybody says, ‘Oh, you’re going up to Tech, it might be snowing.’ Nobody grinds more than we grind in Big Rapids,” Annese said. “We don’t practice indoors, we go out in all conditions and our guys are used to it. So when people say you might have snow, our guys celebrate that.”

Nobody celebrated the snow that began to fall during warmups, more than senior quarterback Travis Russell, who took it upon himself to warmup shirtless in the winter weather.

Whatever it was, it worked for Russell, who took the start after senior quarterback Jayru Campbell sustained a foot contusion against Saginaw Valley State last weekend. The offense didn't miss a beat, and Russell completed 13-of-19 for 323 yards and two touchdowns, nearly matching Campbell's passing stats from last game.



Tony Annese

“He’s just unbelievable in tough conditions,” Annese said. “He had a great game, so very happy to get out of here with not only a win but a very good performance.”

Ferris hit the ground running from the kickoff, with Russell running in a touchdown on their first possession. Then at the end of the first quarter, senior defensive back Alex Thomas brought in his third interception of the season and made it a pick six this time.

Thomas' 15-yard return put Ferris up by two touchdowns and gave Ferris all the momentum early in the game.

“We play with a lot of confidence everywhere, truthfully,” Annese said. “We got some early scores, which I think was key in this game because when you get a big (lead) it’s somewhat demoralizing for the opponent.”

The Bulldogs gained more than 600 yards of offense for the second week in a row with 615 total. The team's depth charts typically list two players per position, but the offensive skill players could go three deep, at least.

Looking at the box score, Ferris had eight players contribute to their 234 rushing yards and nine players get receptions for the team's 381 passing yards.

“Everybody just talks about our wealth of talent, so I guess we’ve just got good players that roll in there with the second and third units,” Annese said.

Sophomore running back Jeremy Burrell led the team with 91 yards on seven carries. The three rushing touchdowns came from Russell, junior running back Tyler Minor and redshirt freshman quarterback Dezmin Lyburtus. Sophomore wide receiver Xavier Wade led the way in receiving yards with 134 and a touchdown.

The Ferris defense performed this week yet again, and the Huskies failed to gain a first down on nine of the 14 drives. With two more sacks this week, Ferris is now tied with Michigan Tech lead-

Football | see page 11

Ashland, Grand Valley, Saginaw Valley edging out Ferris women's soccer in GLIAC standings

Brendan Samuels
Torch Reporter

Though the Ferris women's soccer team has been competitive within their conference this season, two teams, Ashland University and Grand Valley State University, have got the better of the Bulldogs.

Ferris took on Ashland twice this season, losing both of those midseason matchups by narrow margins. The first was a 3-1 loss on Sept. 29, and the second was a 3-1 loss on Oct. 13.

Fast forward to Sunday, Oct. 27, when the Bulldogs challenged their biggest rival, GVSU. The Lakers plowed Ferris over, posting a 7-0 blowout, a loss that did not sit well with Ferris senior goalkeeper Alison Chesterfield.

“This game was somewhat of an awakening for us,” Chesterfield said. “We have to figure out what kind of team we are after a game like that. Are we the team that rolls over and lets the outcome of Sunday define the rest of our season, or are we the team that picks each other up and works ten times as hard to make sure that we finish out our season on our own terms?”



Alison Chesterfield

Now, with just one regular season game left, the team must turn their attention to the GLIAC Tournament. Ferris has already clinched a spot in the tournament, but the next two weeks will be key in terms of seeding.

Currently, Ferris would be the No. 4 seed, behind No. 1 GVSU, No. 2 Ashland and No. 3 Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU). However, SVSU will take on both

GVSU and Ashland to round out its season, so the Bulldogs could advance before the postseason schedule is set.

Regardless of seeding, Ferris is destined to rematch either Ashland or GVSU.



Mackenzie Dawes

“Now that we have played against both of those teams, we know what we need to do to get the win, we just have to execute on game day,” Ferris junior forward Mackenzie Dawes said. “We have to understand that games aren't guaranteed and that if we want to continue to play, we have to be mentally and physically prepared to play every game.”

Ferris did their job Sunday, Nov. 3, against Northwood University, coming away from Midland with a 4-0 victory. Even with the win, the Bulldogs need some help from GVSU and Ashland over the next few weeks to help them jump SVSU in the standings.

The win over the Timberwolves puts the team's record at 12-3-2 overall, with a 5-2-1 GLIAC record.

All postseason speculation aside, the Bulldogs still have one test in front of them before they can shift gears into tournament mode. A rematch with Northwood is on the books for 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8.

“Coach always says we have to be the best team on game day. It's become sort of our team mantra,” Chesterfield said. “Other teams could beat us nine out of ten times, but if we're the best team that we can be for a full 90 minutes, then I'm confident that our team could take on any opponent and come out with a win.”

WEEKEND SCORECARD

Football
Nov. 2 - Ferris 52,
Michigan Tech 0

Soccer
Nov. 3 - Ferris 4, Northwood 0

Hockey
Nov. 1 - Ferris 4, LSSU 5
Nov. 2 - Ferris 3, LSSU 3



Photo courtesy of Kevin McDermott

Ferris sophomore Sy Barnett makes a catch in last weekend's snowy matchup against Michigan Tech. Barnett totaled 88 receiving yards.

Football

Continued from page 10

ing the GLIAC in sacks.

Sophomore quarterback Evan Cummins made his reps late in the game and went 4-of-6 for 58 yards. Cummins also threw his first passing touchdown of the season, hitting sophomore wide receiver Tahjon McKinney-Cole for his first collegiate score on a 34-yard pass.

This week's matchup is the annual Anchor-Bone Classic against Grand Valley, hosted this year in Big Rapids. The game is scheduled to kick off at 12:07 p.m. Saturday and will broadcast on Fox Sports Detroit.

Annese seemed unconcerned about the matchup despite calling it a "big game" in his post game interview Saturday, saying he really hadn't studied the Grand Valley offense yet at all.

"They're going to come to Big Rapids with the idea that they're going to knock us off to get a share," Annese said. "Quite honestly, I know nothing about them. I haven't watched hardly any film on them other than when they played teams we were prepping for. But really haven't studied them and so I know very little about them but I do know our guys will be ready for that game and be very excited."

With this week's win, Ferris secured a share of the GLIAC regular season title and will win it outright with a win this weekend against Grand Valley.

Not in our house

Bulldogs pick up two more home wins against SVSU and LSSU

Austin Arquette
Torch Reporter

Ferris volleyball is undefeated at home this season, and Ewingleben Arena is beginning to look like a fortress to visiting teams.

With two home wins this weekend, the No. 20 nationally ranked Ferris women's volleyball team improved to 19-5.

On Friday, Nov. 1, the Bulldogs took on Saginaw Valley State University with a 3-2 win. The next day they swept Lake Superior State University.

The Bulldogs fell in the first set 22-25 against SVSU, but quickly turned things around with a 25-15 win in the second set and a 25-20 win in the third. With a loss in the fourth set 23-25, Ferris and SVSU were tied up, leading to a 15-point decision in the fifth set. The Bulldogs prevailed with a 15-13 victory.

Senior outside hitter Allyson Cappel had 26 kills and 22 digs — a match high — along with fellow senior setter Maeve Grimes who collected 61 assists and 10 digs.

Junior outside hitter Katie O'Connell added 17 kills and 28 digs and senior outside hitter Courtney Brewer put in another 10 kills. Junior libero Nina Gorgijevska collected 32 digs while freshman middle hitter Kira Merkle put in nine kills.

"I thought Allyson did a nice job taking advantage of what was available, whether it was off the block or in the seam or something like that," Ferris head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm said. "I just thought she did a nice job of taking advantage of that and I just thought that the whole team did a nice job of being able to get her the ball at the right moments."

Ferris totaled 108 digs, 73 kills, eight block assists, five solo blocks, collected three aces and hit 28.4% as a team against SVSU. Against LSSU the bulldogs had a total of 38 kills, 37 assists, 59 digs, and had a 27.3 kill percentage.

Ferris sophomore middle hitter Samantha Hermann said their goal was to play at any opponent's level at their home court last weekend, a goal they believed they accomplished.

"We worked really, really hard for this over the last couple practices and I think



Tia Brandel-Wilhelm



Samantha Hermann



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

The Ferris volleyball team celebrates a point in a home matchup. The Bulldogs have yet to drop a match at home this season.

we really trusted ourselves and we really played as a team, so I think it was a good couple wins and we had a lot of fun doing it," Hermann said.

Brandel-Wilhelm labeled LSSU as a "great defensive team" who hustles and said they made a few key errors that allowed Ferris to take control. Seniors led the team against LSSU with Cappel and Brewer responsible for nine points apiece in the victory.

"This is such a great group of seniors, just a wonderful

group of people, super good volleyball players, of course," Brandel-Wilhelm said. "They've worked really hard to become the players they are, but even more than that, it's just how they work to make the team better and they certainly have."

With three more GLIAC games left on the season, the team will take on the Upper Peninsula this weekend and travel to Michigan Tech Friday, Nov. 8, and Northern Michigan Saturday, Nov. 9.

Volleyball

Nov. 1 - Ferris 3, SVSU 2
Nov. 2 - Ferris 3, LSSU 0

Women's Basketball

Oct. 30 - Ferris 45,
Michigan State 85

Men's Basketball

Nov. 1 - Ferris 100, Wayne State 78
Nov. 2 - Ferris 111, Tex. Permian Basin 91
Nov. 3 - Ferris 91, Concordia (California) 83



Top Dawg

Travis Russell

Photo by: Cora Hall | Sports Editor

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

This week's Top Dawg honors belongs to senior quarterback Travis Russell for his performance in the snow against Michigan Tech.

Russell had a breakout performance after being injured for several weeks this season due to a broken rib from the first game. He was good for 323 passing yards and before last week, a Ferris quarterback had not thrown more than 300 yards in a single game since 2016.

Scoring three touchdowns against the Huskies, Russell ran in the first touchdown of the game and threw two more. Both his passing touchdowns were off big plays, finding sophomore Xavier Wade on a 78-yard pass and junior running back Marvin Campbell on a 73-yard pass.

After his performance, Russell's role of the peren-

nial backup quarterback is hardly valid and he has solidified his position as one of the top quarterbacks in the GLIAC.

Russell's role in Ferris' pristine record of 9-0 was limited because of his rib injury, but it was significant all the same. Playing nearly the entire game against Findlay on a broken rib, Russell led the team to a 1-0 start with senior quarterback Jayru Campbell sitting as a precautionary move. Russell's next appearance was against Davenport, when he re-injured the same rib. His other appearance was against Saginaw Valley State University.

Despite his missed games, Russell didn't skip practices or games, however. He was on the sidelines every game he was out with a headset, assisting in play calling.

Russell's performance also earned him GLIAC Offensive Player of the Week honors.

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Puff puff and play?

Marijuana and CBD use in sports



Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

The stress and pressure that is put on professional athletes along with the wear and tear of their bodies is instrumental. They are in a profession which asks for them to produce, and if they do not, then they will be in jeopardy of losing their jobs. These athletes should be able to use marijuana or CBD to help them cope with the day to day job of being a professional athlete.

Along with the mental aspect, you have the obvious physical aspect. These athletes go through grueling training and seasons that break down their bodies and they look for any kind of relief to help them cope with that pain. One solution to this pain is marijuana and there have been many examples in the past few years with athletes coming out and admitting their marijuana use.

Former Detroit Lions receiver Calvin Johnson, a likely future hall-of-famer, admitted just a few months ago to smoking marijuana after every single game as a member of the Detroit Lions from 2007 to 2015.

He used marijuana for the pain he was dealing with and to avoid the use of opioid abuse. When he got to the NFL, Vicodin, OxyContin and Percocet were unbelievably easy to access. Whatever you needed to get to make you feel better they had. He saw the problem with this and did not like the way it made him feel, so he preferred cannabis.

It is a scary thought that these athletes have such easy access to addictive prescription drugs. The pain relief they offer is enticing and addiction is a slippery slope. However, in the unforgiving world of professional sports, athletes take advantage of anything they can to stay healthy and perform at the highest level.

Another example is Percy Harvin, the famous Florida Gator who played in the NFL from 2009 to 2016. He struggled with anxiety on and off the field for several years. Especially when the Minnesota Vikings traded him to the Seattle Seahawks and he was dealing with one of the toughest times of his life. Dealing with unfamiliar situations and a new environment made his anxiety even worse.

He was prescribed tons of medication. However, none of them worked. He was most comfortable using marijuana and smoked before every game he played. Now you see the mental aspect of the problem. The grind of being a professional athlete can take a toll on the mind.

Instead of forcing these athletes to take pharmaceutical medicine with side effects that will affect other parts of their life, they should be able to medicate themselves in a way they feel is safe and effective for them.

Eben Britton, a retired NFL offensive lineman and the founder of Athletes For Care, a nonprofit organization with members of NFL, NHL, NBA and UFC athletes. In an interview he estimated that at least half of NFL players use marijuana and it is easy to get away with it. NFL players get drug tested once a year and it is usually in the offseason. To get suspended or fined, you must fail the test multiple times.

This is a drug 10 states have fully legalized and others have mixtures of decriminalized and medicated forms of using the drug. You see the examples of how it helps athletes perform better physically and mentally.

It is just like everything else, though. It does not help or benefit every single athlete. Everyone has different bodies and different ways their bodies react to things. However, it cannot hurt the player that does not want to use the drug. It only benefits the players who feel more comfortable using marijuana or CBD.

Studies have shown CBD may help reduce chronic pain, reducing inflammation. It also could reduce anxiety and depression. These are usually treated with pharmaceutical drugs, which can cause several side effects.

Beside professional athletes, I can't help but think about college athletes. Student athletes have class, practice, study sessions, lifts and more. They have so much anxiety, stress and responsibility on a daily basis.

If it is possible to help student athletes cope with the grind of school and their sport, then why not let them? Why not help them in any way that we can that makes them feel more comfortable about their bodies and minds?



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Luck not on their side of the ice

Bad breaks continue to hamper the 2 - 5 Bulldogs



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Sophomore forward Jake Transit contributed to last weekend's offense with a goal and three shots against Lake Superior State University.

Brendan Sanders
Torch Reporter

"Close but no cigar" could be the motto for the Bulldog men's hockey team this season as the team battles back from a 2-5 start.

Being so close to victory only to lose can be very agonizing, yet that has been the case with every loss for the Bulldogs. Standing at 2-5 with wins over Colgate and Miami of Ohio, the men's hockey team could very well have been 7-0 with a few lucky bounces.

The Bulldogs have a losing differential of 1.14, with four of the team's five losses having been by a single goal. The other loss came from Northern Michigan, in which they lost 6-4 after two last minute goals by the Wildcats.

There are many members of this year's squad who have been here contributing greatly to the offensive output that has led the team put up 3.3 goals per game.

The offensive output has been led by upperclassmen, who have 14 of the team's 20 goals on the season, along with 23 of the team's 39 assists.

Junior forward Marshall Moise has been the team's offensive leader, scoring three goals and three assists. This includes a strong weekend against Northern Michigan in which he scored two goals and two assists in two games.

Senior forward Jason Tackett leads the team in points, with seven total points after playing in six games. He has been most effective on the starting line. In his two starts, he scored five points, including one goal and four assists. His best game of the year so far came, once again against Northern Michigan, where he scored four points off a goal and three assists. He also has the team's sole shorthanded goal on the season.

Senior defenseman Nate Kallen has also been off to a hot start with three goals and three assists. He has been a consistent points maker for the Bulldogs over the last four games. Scoring at least a point in the last four games, he has scored all six of his points in the last two weekends.

Freshman defenseman Jake Willets has already made an impact on the squad, picking up seven assists in six games. This ranks him tied for 15th in the nation in assists. Having scored an assist in every game he's played with the exception of one, Willets is tied with Tackett in points with seven. He also has the highest +/- differential on the team standing currently at +3.

What the Bulldogs do offensively, though, is roughly negated by their defensive performance, allowing 3.59 goals per game. Taking out the two wins, that statistic jumps to 4.6 goals per game in the five losses.

The goaltender position has been a competition between sophomore Roni Salmenkangas and freshman Carter McPhail. Salmenkangas has started four games this season, allowing 4.13 goals per game with 92 saves and a save percentage of 86.8%.

McPhail has started two games, appearing in three total, allowing 3.46 goals per game with 73 saves and a save percentage of 89%.

With 29 games left on the regular season schedule, there is still time for the squad to get the ball rolling. Once they do, the offense may be one to reckon with in the WCHA.

The Bulldogs head to Kalamazoo 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, as they face the 3-3-2 Western Michigan Broncos. On Saturday, Nov. 9, the Broncos will be returning the favor and playing in Big Rapids at 8 p.m.



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Friday, Nov. 8:

- Women's Soccer vs. Northwood at 1 p.m.
- Women's Basketball at Lake Erie at 5 p.m.
- Volleyball at Michigan Tech at 5 p.m.
- Hockey at Western Michigan at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 9:

- Cross Country at NCAA-II Regional in Evansville, Indiana
- Football vs. Grand Valley State University at 12:07 p.m.

- Men's Basketball vs. Davis & Elkins at 4 p.m.
- Volleyball at Northern Michigan at 4 p.m.
- Women's Basketball at Walsh at 5 p.m.
- Hockey vs. Western Michigan at 8:07 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 10:

- Women's Soccer in GLIAC Quarterfinals, time and location TBD
- Men's Basketball vs. Alderson-Broaddus (West Virginia) at 1 p.m.

OPINIONS

“I personally wish that Epstein was looked after more, because a person like him should not be able to just disappear like Houdini.”
- Ry Rodriguez- See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

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410 Oak Street
Ferris State University
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- TORCH STAFF -

- Editor in Chief**
Noah Poser
(231) 591-5978
- Visual Content**
Samantha Cavotta
Will Holden
Hunter Pariseau
- Production Manager**
Sarah Massey
- Videographer**
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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Noah Poser

I had never truly realized how difficult travel could be.

That was until three flight cancellations, two extra long delays and one 24-hour trip to Washington D.C. changed my entire outlook on traveling.

Of course I knew that flights got delayed, and I knew this is a common occurrence in everyday air travel. I just never realized it could be this bad.

If my family had to go somewhere for some unfortunate event, the trip would always be made by car, even if that meant an eight-hour drive to Nashville, Tennessee.

Therefore, I never stepped foot on a plane until this past August when I attended a journalism conference down in Athens, Georgia. It was the definition of a smooth trip to and fro. I relished in the fact it was quick and didn't

require numerous stops for my younger siblings to grab snacks or go to the bathroom.

This trip, however, was not what I would describe as smooth, and what came with it were multiple realizations that I never thought I would discover. For example, when bad weather is on the horizon, maybe it's best to drive where you need to go. It won't make the trip any safer, but you can control at least if you actually start to head to your destination.

Also, heading to your desired location via car, it gives you a way to avoid this kind of chaos on days where the wind doesn't blow your way.

In fact, if anything, this trip made me look at all the posi-

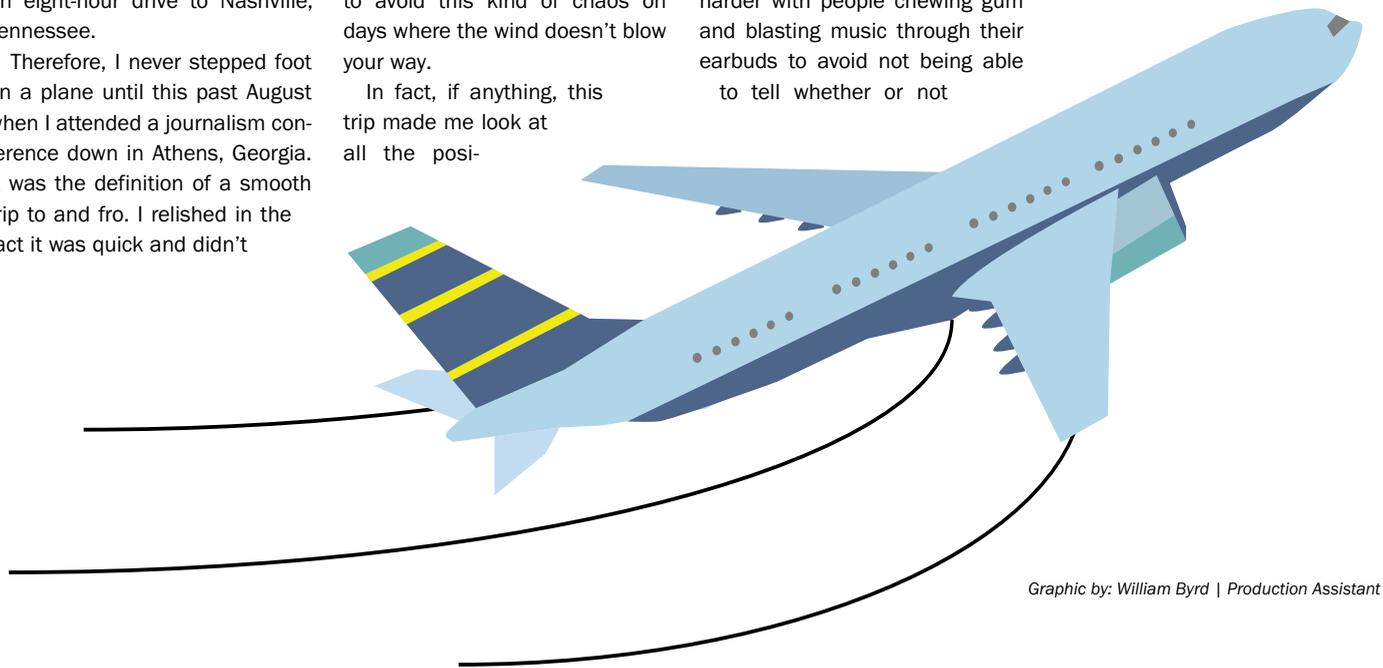
tives when thinking about all the mini road trips I've taken in the past.

Whether it be something small like playing "I Spy" while heading down the highway, or something bigger like watching "Are You There Yet?" while my siblings and I constantly ask my mother if we are there yet.

What this trip made me realize above all else is that road trips are second to none in terms of bonding with the people around you. This isn't to say people can't bond on a plane, but it's much harder with people chewing gum and blasting music through their earbuds to avoid not being able to tell whether or not

the lady at the cafe in the airport is saying "tea" or cheese." I love flying, and come to think of it, I might love road trips too. There is no doubt in my mind that I will spend countless hours of my future life both riding on a plane and riding in a car.

If this travel situation this past week taught me anything, though, it's that I'm going to start cherishing those long car rides that ultimately end up being as easy as one, two, three.



Graphic by: William Byrd | Production Assistant

Jeffrey Epstein did not kill himself

From memes to Tik Toks: this is a real problem

Middle-aged moms sharing 'dank' memes on Facebook and teenagers posting 'edgy' Tik Toks have something in common.

Both tend to have Jeffrey Epstein tied to them. These post and memes are not happening at a slow rate, they are making up a lot of the content for these platforms.

It is not every day multi-generations can make fun a convicted sex offender that was awaiting trial for sex trafficking.

These tend to include Jeffrey's suicide, or their lack of. But in some way these posts always tend to be comedic as well. Even with these posts being funny, it brings a terrible situation to light that needs to be addressed.

On Wednesday, Aug. 15, the Washington Post was the first major news outlet that raised light on the conspiracy theory of Jeffrey Epstein getting murdered, instead of suicide, to cover up all the frayed ends to rich people and sex trafficking.

People must understand that Epstein is a horrible person who had high ties with the



Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

and that this finding of Epstein's hyoid was broken in four different spots. This helped the conspiracy to further.

In more recent news, Epstein's brother hired an independent forensic pathologist. In the second examiners results, he said the autopsy "points to homicide." The pathologist also talked about how some of Epstein's injuries pointed to more of a strangulation rather than a suicide.

It also seemed weird how Epstein just made his will two days before he took his own life. Also, he oddly gave his estate 90 thousand dollars to the lawsuits that the estate would face.

In all seriousness, this matter seems like the majority of people wants more of an investigation to make sure all the crimes are pursued, and the truth will come out.

I personally wish that Epstein was looked after more because a person like him should not be able to just disappear like Houdini. He should have had to face the full consequences of his actions.

Royal family, the Clintons and even President Trump.

It was even joked about on the Daily Show with Trevor Noah on Friday, Nov. 1. He asked Hillary Clinton in jest, "How did you kill Jeffrey Epstein?" It has been a long conspiracy that the Clintons somehow murdered Epstein in some way.

Therefore, the common person thinks Jeffrey Epstein did not kill himself. He had these ties with powerful and rich people so if he testified, he would have had a chance to bring them down with him.

The Washington Post went to explain how breaking the hyoid bone breaks more in homicidal strangulations than in suicidal hangings,

Ain't too proud to beg... for Christmas

I love Christmas and will celebrate when I choose, thank you



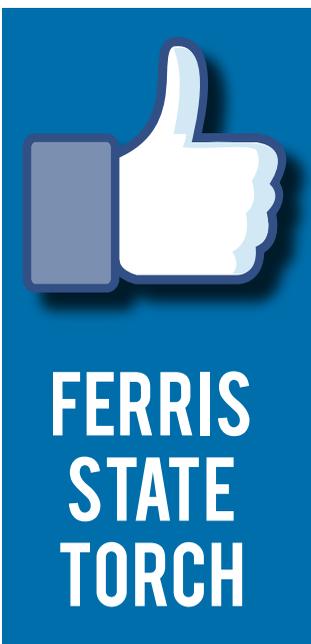
Sydney Stevens
 Copy Editor

Every single year, I go through 10 months of emptiness because I am obligated to “enjoy” Valentine’s Day, Easter and Independence Day. Nonetheless, I sit on the sidelines patiently waiting to celebrate with my people. So, when the clock strikes 12 a.m. on October 1st, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas. I also start a personal countdown that I keep in a festive little app on my phone. No, not for Halloween, although I do partake in the festivities. I start counting down the days until the Christmas season. I absolutely love and adore the holiday season.

Christmas has always been my favorite holiday ever since I was a little girl. I love baking Christmas goodies, decorating with the people I love and listening to the vast amount of Christmas music. There are just so many wonderful things to do during the holiday season. But, do you want to know what isn’t wonderful about this amazing time of year? People getting big mad over other people enjoying what they like.

There is so much acceptance when it comes to people being “basic” in the fall time. Everyone loves to drink pumpkin spice lattes and wear Ugg boots during fall; but, as soon as I want to destress from the year and play Feliz Navidad all I get is, “Can we get past Thanksgiving first?” or “Every time you play Christmas music before December, Santa shoots an elf.” Well, I guess the elves are getting used for target practice. To be perfectly honest, Christmas haters are lucky that I hadn’t started blasting Christmas music back in September. I’m not about hold in my Christmas spirit just because some Ebenezer’s aren’t ready to hear it yet.

In the words of Grandpa Walker from Holes, “THAT’S TOO DAMN BAD!” Now I would like to get back to my Silent Night before I kick some people in the Jingle Bells.



2019 DECEMBER COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Ewigleben Sport Complex
 (Wink Arena)



College	Contact	Phone #	Location
Health Professions	Richelle Williams	(231) 591-2263	VFS 210
Arts & Sciences	Gayle Driggers	(231) 591-3666	ASC 3052
Business	Carri Griffis	(231) 591-2493	BUS 200
Business (graduate students)	Shannon Yost	(231) 591-2168	BUS 200
Education & Human Services	Jennie Stange	(231) 591-2700	BIS 604
Engineering Technology	Joyce Mudel	(231) 591-3983	JOH 200
General Studies Graduates	Shelly VandePanne	(231) 591-2360	ASC 1039

Note: You must satisfy all of your degree requirements before you officially graduate and receive your diploma.
Caps and Gowns may be purchased at the Grad Fair on November 7, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm in the University Center – Multi-purpose Rooms or starting November 7 – December 6 at the Ferris State University Bookstore (located in the University Center, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids MI 49307).

Tickets are required for all ceremonies. All Students planning on participating in a ceremony will receive (7) seven tickets. Electronic tickets will be available for students to reserve or print starting 8:00 am November 7, 2019. Extra tickets are not distributed and lost tickets will not be replaced. **Tickets must be reserved by Thursday, December 12 at 11:59 pm.**

Commencement Program – Graduates must complete their online graduation application by **Friday, October 11, 2019 for their names to appear in the Fall 2019 Commencement Program** or their name will not appear in the Commencement Program. In order to have the program printed and back in time for the ceremonies we have to adhere to these deadlines. Contact your college’s Commencement Coordinator if you have any questions.

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Time	College
10:00 am	College of Arts & Sciences College of Education & Human Services College of Engineering Technology
1:30 pm	College of Business College of Health Professions

For special accommodations or for more information regarding the Commencement ceremony, please visit the Commencement website www.ferris.edu/commencement or call (231) 591-3803.



If Family Video was a person



Cartoon by: Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor

GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.
Noah Poser | Editor in Chief | Email: posern1@ferris.edu

1. Think of a topic that you feel strongly about.
2. Write out your thoughts in a coherent and respectful manner.
3. include a headshot and some information about yourself (location, age, etc.).
4. Email your opinion to the editor for a chance to have your work published in our next issue!

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