

Ferris State University
TORCH
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O Christmas Tree



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

This year's holiday event will feature aspects from many cultures, not just Christmas.



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Multimedia Editor

The Ferris Christmas tree will be the centerpiece of this year's student government holiday event.

Professor studies abroad

Ferris history professor granted scholarship to work on book in another country

Ry Rodriguez
 Torch Reporter

A Ferris professor has been granted the Visegrad scholarship, which will allow him to travel to Budapest for two months to study the Open Society Archives.

Adjunct professor of history Christian Peterson will be traveling to Central European University to perform the research.

For those two months Peterson will be working on his new book, *Changing the World from Below: The Transitional Struggle for Peace, Human Rights and a People's Détente*, which, according to Peterson, is about "how private citizens help bring about the Cold War by challenging governments to respect peace, respect human rights and trying to gain personal interactions that broke down the barriers on both sides of the Cold War."

"So instead of looking at the policy makers and what they did, I am going to show how policy makers were influenced by what the private citizens did to transform the world," Peterson said.

Peterson plans to compare the connections which were made by Americans behind the Cold War boundaries, connections made in western Europe, and other connections made with the transnational boundaries. Peterson wants to answer the questions and reasons why the Cold War ended in a way most current works do not address.

Peterson received the scholarship, it seemed with ease, because he has done work with the Open Society Archives before, and he stated that they liked his work and the Society thought Peterson would be a good applicant for the Visegrad scholarship.

"I was one of a chosen seven or eight-hundred applications, so we will see. It's two months and two-thousand euros to offset the expenses of living in Budapest," Peterson said.

He will be traveling around the

Budapest | see page 2

How ever free your branches

Trenton Carlson
 Torch Reporter

Every year to celebrate the holidays, Ferris student government hosts a holiday event along with placing a Christmas tree in the North Quad.

Although a Christmas tree on campus may raise controversy, student government's Nov. 21 event was meant to include other religious holidays in the university's celebration of the season.

The event is intended to allow all cultures and religions that are present on campus to come together and share traditions, experiences and stories, about how they celebrate the holidays.

"I do feel it is important for all the holidays to be represented on campus, especially because we have such a diverse body of stu-

dents," student government vice president Mariah Gaither said. "That is why we pushed for this event to become a tradition."

Although the tree on campus represents Christmas and is a center point of the quad during the winter, the university ensures that the tree is intended to represent Christmas while the event itself is intended to give other religions on campus a platform to share how they celebrate their holidays.

That being said, some students have strong opinions regarding the university's current attempts to include all religions that celebrate a holiday during this season.

"I think our current attempts are not sufficient because while we do have the all holidays festival it only last a few hours and the holiday tree has the connotation of being specifically for Christmas as well as other holiday trees that are decorated specifically for

Christmas," Ferris technical and professional communication senior Scott Rogers said.

Rogers went on to call the tree somewhat tacky, and imposed that the university should only host the holiday event and refrain from putting a tree on campus, because of its connection to Christmas.

Students also have concerns as to how much the tree would cost to be set up, decorated and torn down, but to many students' surprise, the tree and all the efforts put in to assembling and disassembling are donated.

These donations come from Big L Lumber, Big Rapids Towing, Great Lakes Equipment and Rental, and Morningstar Enterprise, who all donated their time last year as well.

For more information regarding the event or how the university celebrates the holidays, visit Ferris State's website.

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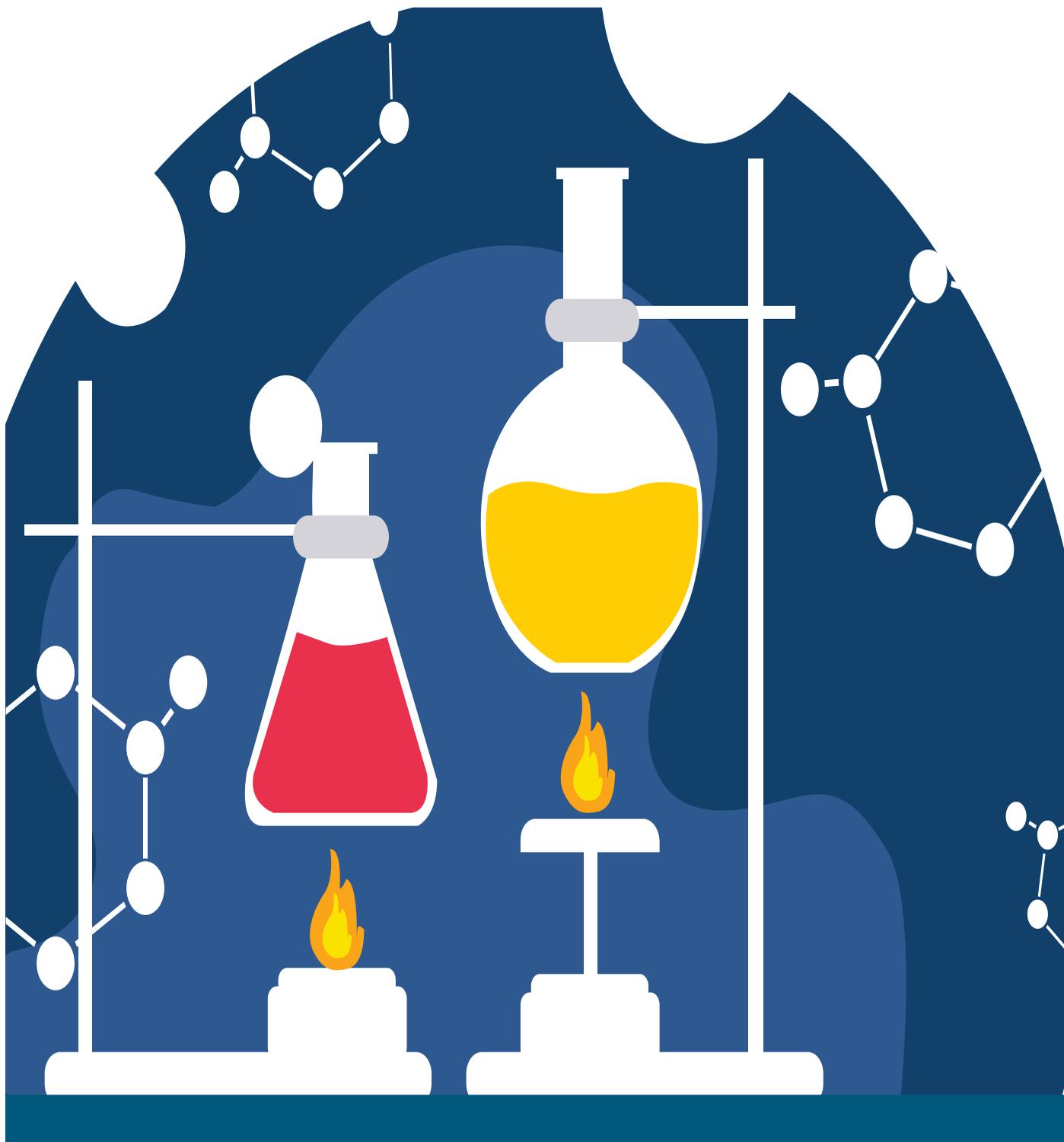
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"Research is an essential part of the undergraduate education experience that promotes growth, development, and training..."

- Luis Rivera - See below for story

Grant Siddall | News Editor | siddalg@ferris.edu

Gas grant



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

Ferris chemistry instructor accepts grant for undergraduate research program

Elizabeth Norvey
Torch Reporter

Even without being a science major, many students may know of Ferris professor Luis Rivera for his work outside of the classroom.

Rivera, an assistant professor of chemistry, was recently awarded a \$55,000 grant for two years from the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund (ACS-PRF) to support his undergraduate research program at Ferris. "One of the main goals of this grant is to enhance chemical education through high quality undergraduate research experience," Rivera said. "I submitted a proposal to ACS-PRF and it was recommended for funding after being peer-reviewed. Only 25 awards are distributed nationally each year. This is a highly competitive application."

Rivera's research is focused on the chemical behavior of petroleum, as the name of the orga-

nization may suggest.

"We are carrying out fundamental simulations of excited ethane molecule relaxation in high-pressure bath gasses. We will be monitoring energy transfers in future fuel molecules when those materials are at high temperatures and at high pressures," Rivera said.

Rivera said the goal of his research is to develop efficient and clean internal combustion engines, and he hopes the outcome of his research will aid future designs of such engines. The grant aims to train the next generation of scientists and researchers, and demonstrating how undergraduate students will be active participants in the research process is an integral part of a successful application, according to Rivera.

"I brought on students that were interested in pursuing a degree in chemistry, were ready to know more and put into practice research, or were going to continue to graduate school with-

in a science field," Rivera said.

The two students who are expected to participate in Rivera's research are Zackary Hren and Chad Lazarock. Hren was a part of a previous research project as a student researcher, as well.

Rivera chooses to include students often, as he believes it to be a great teaching method.

"I consider undergraduate research to be an effective tool for teaching chemistry," Rivera said. "Research is an essential part of the undergraduate education experience that promotes growth, development, and training to the students, just as the FSU founding father said: 'Education is life. It involves growth, development and training,' Woodbridge N. Ferris."

"I would like to see more undergraduate research done at Ferris. I look forward to continuing this work and collaborating with more students in the future," he said.

BUDAPEST

Continued from page 2

beginning of May, and will try to work on the book and get as much research he can get done within the two month period.

In another interview, he said this experience would help him become a better professor, and within the interview he elaborated on that thought.

"My primary field is U.S. foreign policy and world history, so I am basically going to use



Christian Peterson

this experience not only to increase my knowledge to bring to students and my talks in classrooms that teach foreign policy, but bring angles on how to help my students to understand history and not just look at government officials," Peterson said.

"It is also important how private citizens bring ideas, gain power for ideas and hold policy makers accountable for their behavior and challenge their knowledge," he said.

According to his staff biography, Peterson has taught 17 unique history courses during his time at Ferris.

Peterson also added how he wanted to bring in primary source files and archives, and not just study the topics from a secondary source book. He wants to make sure his students get the best out of his experience as well.

One of the highlighted focuses of this scholarship is how Peterson will be traveling out of the country for two months.

"I want to travel as much as I can. There are limits to what I can do because of my job obviously and finances ... but I think this is a great chance to travel the world," Peterson said.

The archives are closed on the weekends, so Peterson said that he will be traveling to parts of Europe as much as he can. European airfare is much cheaper than the United States and he stated he could take a flight from Budapest to Prague for only €15 euro.

Peterson added that Central European University and the Open Society Archives were founded by controversial philanthropist George Soros who donated \$32 billion dollars to the archives, but the Hungarian government has been trying to shut down the university and the archives.

"There is talk if the government really decides to come up with something they may have to move to Austria. I don't think anything is going to happen but in the background, I am going to some area the Hungarian government does not like," Peterson said.

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WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Grant Siddall
News Editor

Burkina Faso

At least 14 people are dead after a gunman attacked a church in Burkina Faso on Sunday, Dec. 1. The small African country has experienced strong ethnic and religious tensions over the last year as Islamic insurgents moved into the area and the attack took place in an area that has repeatedly fell victim to jihadist attacks.

Original article by Reuters Dec. 1, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Beni, Congo

Three aid workers fighting the Ebola outbreak in Congo were attacked and killed by rebels on Thursday, Nov. 28. One attacker from the rebel group, Mai-Mai, was killed by Congolese forces

during the attack and two others were captured. Rebel groups had warned aid workers to leave the area as many believe the Ebola reports are a political trick according to local officials.

Original article by The Associated Press, Nov. 28, 2019. *The New York Times*.

Philippines

More than 43,000 residents on the Eastern islands of the Philippines were evacuated on Monday, Dec. 2 as Typhoon Kammuri approaches. As of Monday, the storm had wind gusts of up to 150 mph in addition to heavy rain. The evacuees all did so voluntarily and pre-emptively as the government had not yet ordered mandatory evacuations as of Monday.

Original article by Jamie Tarabay, Dec. 2, 2019. *The New York Times*.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

We don't know what it means, either

Grant Siddall
News Editor

We don't know what it means, either

Nov. 16, 12:01 p.m., according to the DPS crime log a case of "Fraud - False Pretense/Swindow/Confidence Game - Confidence Game/Fortune Telling - Felony" was closed at The Rock Café.

See a couple weeks ago for a similar report

Nov. 16, 9:28 p.m., a citation was issued for possession of narcotics equipment and possession of marijuana by a minor in Travis Hall.

Wreck center

Nov. 22, 9:45 p.m., a case of

aggravated felonious assault was reported at the Student Recreation Center. The case is open pending investigation.

But Mr. Krabs, what about all the stuff you stole?

Nov. 24, 5:44 p.m., a forced entry burglary was reported at Ward Hall. The case is open pending investigation.

Hands to yourself

Nov. 25, 4:51 p.m., a report of malicious destruction of personal property of under \$200 was reported. A location was not provided in the crime log.

Ferris Department of Safety issued 533 tickets from Nov. 17 to Nov. 30, totalling \$8,525.

Torch Corrections

In the Nov. 20 edition of *the Torch*, the email to contact for the Annual Chamber of Commerce Gala in "Winter Volunteer Opportunities" is incorrect. The correct email is jdbuwalda@mecostacounty.com

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

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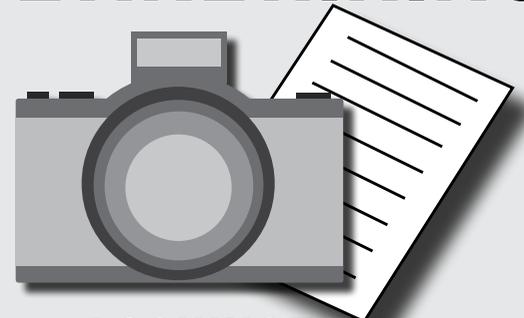
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Ferris runs on students

President Eisler holds university budget meeting

Ry Rodriguez
Torch Reporter

A budget meeting was held by Ferris President David Eisler on Thursday, Nov. 21, showing what Ferris will do with the incoming money of the 2019-20 school year.

At the beginning of the meeting Eisler stated how the budget of last year was only \$210 million dollars and 57% of the money was spent on instruction and academic support. This was the general fund budget.

"When we have a fewer number of students, there is a little bit more support for each of those students because the state number doesn't directly reflect our enrollment," Eisler said.



David Eisler

As has been the trend over the past few years, this year's budget was reduced and now sits at \$206 million dollars. Including reductions, tuition money from students primarily funds the university budget. Student tuition accounts for 71% of income for the university.

The general fund has been on a continual downward trend since 2016 as enrollment numbers continue to decrease.

The budget hit comes directly in correlation with the loss of 778 students from the one-year difference of enrollment.

One change is the possible recession the United States' economy may be facing, and one constant tendency shows more people enroll or re-enter college during a recession.

"The characteristics of a recession is that more people go to community colleges and universities and the piece that comes with that is resources become tighter ... back in the great recession in 2009 the state cut our support by 15%, and you have to have a fair amount of enrollment growth to cover 15%," Eisler said.

Ferris and their operations counterbalanced the hit with two different actions; Ferris had increased state funding — only by two percent — and eliminated 32 university positions.

"We cut eight million dollars out of the budget, and those are all painful discussions, but our institutional approach to the budget is really pretty simple. Inputs have to match outputs," Eisler said.

Over the last four years at Ferris, 120.5 positions have been eliminated to try to balance the budget, only putting \$23.5 million dollars back in the budget.

Not everything presented at the budget meeting was negative. Eisler spoke on how graduation rates are rising. Last year the four-year graduation rate increased six percent from the year before.

That seemed to be the only good news in the hour-long presentation. One slide displayed how Ferris has above the Michigan average for student debt. In 2014 Ferris had an average of \$35,720 in student debt loans, compared to the state average of \$29,450. Now in the latest year of calculation, 2018, Ferris was at \$36,530 while the average has jumped to \$32,158.

"Our students are going to graduate with some debt, but they shouldn't graduate with debt that is going to plague them much of their adult working life," Eisler said.

Eisler explained how only two institutions have gained students throughout the years from 2014 to 2019: University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) at 10.7 percent growth and Michigan State University at only 1.4 percent. It is common for them as Big Ten schools, according to Eisler.

When compared to the other public universities in Michigan, Ferris has fallen from the middle of the list, to the bottom third, continually losing students and faculty income as well.

To wrap up the budget forum, an attendee asked the only question of "why has the university cut student wages, and doesn't this hurt more than help?"

"We did reduce them," Eisler said. "Some of those were money we no longer receive from the state and the federal government ... an additional challenge has been the increase of minimum wage, and there will be an initial increase in January and a couple more down the road," Eisler said.



Torch file photo

President David Eisler held a meeting Thursday, Nov. 21, to review the university's budget for the upcoming academic year.

LIFESTYLES

"College is expensive, and making gifts for people can be an easy way to save some money this season." - Riley Fox - See page 7 for story

Meg Lewton | Lifestyles Editor | lewtonm1@ferris.edu



Beginners' guide to baking

Baking for the holidays

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

With students having over a month of winter break to enjoy at home, many spend the free time preparing for the upcoming holidays by baking sweets and treats.

Playing Christmas music and staying in the kitchen all day is something that Ferris pre-physical therapy senior Katia Skarupinski's family partakes in during the holidays.

"Every year, we bake a ton of Christmas cookies, and we give them away to our family," Skarupinski said. "We also do Christmas bark, that's our big thing that everyone loves."

Ferris speech therapy freshman Jacklyn Masch bakes cookies every year with her family and enjoys being able to spend time with them in the kitchen.

Ferris hospitality professor Kathryn Wolfer said baking during the holidays can have a lot to do with how you grew up and your family's traditions.

"During the holidays, you have big gatherings, and during those times, you won't bake just for you," Wolfer said. "You might be making recipes that re-



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

Baking sugar cookies and other treats with loved ones is how many students get in the holiday spirit.

mind you of your grandma or parents, and it kind of brings family closer together."

Wolfer loves to have a variety of different desserts available and makes 25 different types of cookies during the holiday.

"I'll do the basic chocolate chip, cut out cookies, snickerdoodles. Basically any cookie that's out there I try to make," Wolfer said. "The other thing I also do is make candies, so I make homemade caramel and other things like that."

Another alternative to the basic

Christmas cookie that Ferris information security freshman Marina St. Louis' family makes is homemade cannolis.

For those experienced in baking, Wolfer recommends making no-bake cookies. For those who want to try something outside of the realm of cookies, Wolfer suggests making a trifle.

"You can buy all the things pre-made, like brownies or cake, and crumble them all up," Wolfer said. "So you can put them in a nice glass container, and it will look all fancy, and you really didn't do anything."



Easy and creative Christmas cookies

Frosted Reindeer Cookies

Ingredients

- 16 oz ready to bake sugar cookie dough
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup vanilla creamy ready-to-spread frosting
- 64 small pretzel twists
- 64 semisweet chocolate chips (about 1/4 cup)
- 16 gumdrops, cut in half

Steps

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Break up cookie dough in large bowl. Stir in flour until well blended. Mold dough into triangle-shaped log. If too soft to cut into slices, refrigerate up to 30 minutes.
3. Cut dough into 32 (1/4-inch) triangular slices. On ungreased cookie sheets, place slices two inches apart.
4. Bake 7 to 11 minutes or until set. Cool one minute, then move to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 15 minutes.
5. Frost cookies, then place two pretzel twists on each triangle near corners for antlers. Press two chocolate chips into each cookie for eyes and one halved gumdrop for a nose.
6. Store between sheets of waxed paper in a tightly covered container.

Christmas Crinkle Cookies

Ingredients

- 16 oz ready to bake sugar cookie dough
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ teaspoon green gel food color
- ½ teaspoon red gel food color
- ¼ cup plus 1/3 cup powdered sugar

Steps

1. Preheat oven to 350°F
2. Divide dough in half and break each half into separate small bowls. In one bowl, stir or knead dough, two tablespoons of flour and green food coloring until well mixed. In the other bowl, stir or knead two tablespoons of flour and red food coloring into remaining half of dough until well mixed.
3. Shape into 44 (one-inch) balls.
4. In small bowl, place 1/4 cup powdered sugar. Roll each ball in powdered sugar and discard remaining sugar.
5. Place balls two inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 8 to 11 minutes or until tops are cracked and edges are set. Cool two minutes, then remove from cookie sheets to cooling racks.
6. Dip tops of each cookie into the remaining 1/3 cup powdered sugar. Cool completely, about 30 minutes. Store in covered container at room temperature.

Recipes courtesy of Pillsbury



Cutting costs

Making gifts for loved ones

Marissa Russell
Torch Reporter

Buying gifts for loved ones can get expensive this time of year, which is why Ferris television and digital media production senior Riley Fox sometimes likes to make the gifts herself.

"I am not the most crafty person; so, it can be a struggle sometimes. But if I get step by step instructions, I like to try and make something," Fox said.

Fox has made gifts from picture art to magnets to little jars with pick-me-ups for her friends. It can be rewarding seeing a loved one get excited over a gift you made them, Fox said.

"College is expensive, and making gifts for people can be an easy way to save some money this season," Fox said.

Fox's roommate, Ferris sports communication junior Renee Johnson, enjoys getting gifts Fox makes for her. She said it feels like Fox isn't just buying some meaningless gift she thinks Johnson may like. Johnson said she doesn't receive a lot of DIY or homemade gifts but appreciates when she does.

Ferris secondary education senior Kayla Clough is no stranger to DIY gifts.

"Pinterest is the best," Clough said. "There are so many great ideas on Pinterest, and many of the patterns and instructions for many

crafts are free."

When getting supplies, Clough suggests you ensure you know exactly what you are making and how you want to make it. She advises trying to make every piece of the material count. If you have scraps, try and find a craft that calls for scraps.

"The best DIY gift I've ever made would be a tie blanket that I made for my mom," Clough said. "It was the first handmade gift I had ever made, and I loved seeing my mom's reaction to getting a handmade gift."

Clough has received many different DIY gifts. Every year, her mom makes ornaments for everyone in Clough's family and has made many different Christmas stockings and blankets.

"This year for the holidays, my plan is to make most of the gifts that I give to my friends and family," Clough said. "I think that when you make a gift for someone, it shows just how much you truly care for them because you put so much thought, time and energy into one gift."

Clough has a shop called "Crafts by Kayla," where she sells homemade scrunchies, headbands, Chapstick holders and bandanas.

To find out more about "Crafts by Kayla" look up her Facebook, Instagram or Twitter page at @_craftsbykayla.



Graphic by: Abigail Maskill | Production Assistant

When did you stop believing in Santa Claus?

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter



"I think I was like 10, I realized that the notes I was getting from Santa were the same as my grandma's handwriting, so one year I put two and two together."

— **Ferris construction management junior Marisa Roberts**



"I think I was actually pretty old when I stopped believing, probably 12 or 13. I wanted to believe for as long as possible but then I realized that my mom's handwriting was the same as Santa's, so I kind of just decided that he wasn't real anymore."

— **Ferris pharmacy sophomore Kelsey Weber**



"I stopped believing when I was 10 or 11 because I found presents in my parents' closet that said 'To Hunter, From Santa.' I put two and two together and asked some questions and they told me."

— **Ferris manufacturing technologies freshman Hunter Cobb**



"I wrote Santa a note and left out carrots for the reindeer and then my parents wrote me a note back. I believed it at first but when the snow cleared, I saw the carrots in the yard and realized my parents had just thrown them out the window."

— **Ferris biology freshman Emily Ward**



"I partially outgrew and started questioning it, so then my mom just came out and told me. But she was like, 'You can't say anything though.' because I had a younger sister, so I had to keep believing."

— **Ferris undecided freshman Madison Leader**



A different kind of celebration



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

There's more to the holiday season than Christmas

Marissa Russell
Torch Reporter

While many students at Ferris celebrate Christmas this time of year, other celebrations go on, as well.

Kwanzaa:

This year, Kwanzaa will start Thursday, Dec. 26, and will end Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. Kwanzaa is a celebration primarily held in the United States to honor African heritage and African-American culture. Kwanzaa has seven core principles; Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity) and Imani (faith).

Diwali:

India and other countries with a sizeable Hindu population celebrate Diwali. They celebrate "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance." It is typically observed for five days and celebrated during the Hindu Lunisolar month Kartika, which means between mid-October to mid-November. Diwali was celebrated Sunday, Oct. 27.

Hanukkah:

Hanukkah is a more recognized celebration in America. Hanukkah starts celebrating Sunday, Dec. 22, and ends Monday, Dec. 30. It is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem when the Maccabees revolted against the Seleucid Empire. Many people know Hanukkah for the candles on the menorah, with one more lit each night of Hanukkah.



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Manager

New year, new me

Everyone makes a resolution, but how do you follow through?

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

One of the most common traditions this time of year is the New Year's resolutions.

Ancient Babylonians began this tradition thousands of years ago by promising the gods to pay debts or return goods they had borrowed. In exchange, the gods would favor them in the upcoming year.

New Year's resolutions now are much more straightforward. Instead of a promise to gods, individuals make promises to themselves for self-improvement.

Many people look at New Year's resolutions as a joke because the likelihood of following through on them is low. According to research done by the Statistic Brain Research Institute, about 45% of Americans make New Year's resolutions, but only 8% follow through and complete their goal.

Ferris forensic biology sophomore Kali LaVigue recalls being among the 8% in past years when she had made a resolution. LaVigue had made the most common resolution there is: to be more healthy and fit. A few other Ferris students had made this resolution as well.

Ferris operations and supply chain management sophomore Chaise Ford hopes to start going to the gym a minimum of four times a week. In previous years, he had resolved to eat healthier, but like many others, he gave up after two weeks.

Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Ava Kayner remembers never following through with any of her past resolutions. To change the cycle, Kayner is implementing the technique of having a workout buddy to help keep her accountable.

Techniques like the one Kayner is using this year are what many others who have completed their goals have done. Being realistic and creating a timeline is a technique that some have used to help stay on track.

Ferris heavy equipment engineering sophomore Lorin Burch has the resolution to be more accepting of others after coming to Ferris.

"My New Year's resolution would be to be more open-minded. Where I'm from, there's not a whole lot of diversity there. Being here has opened me up to a lot of things that I haven't seen or some things that I didn't initially approve of, so I want to be more open to things," Burch said.

No matter what your resolution is, Ferris nursing sophomore Gunnar Crowley raised a valid point when reflecting on why he had never had a New Year's resolution.

"I don't think you have to wait until a certain day to want to do something," Crowley said.



Gunnar Crowley



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Events calendar

WEDNESDAY



Dec. 4

Wake Up Wednesday!

Location: UC Starbucks
Time: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Building Solutions: Moving Beyond Stress

Location: Birkam Health Center
Time: 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Inclusive Excellence Workshop Series

Location: ALU 121
Time: 2:30 - 4 p.m.

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Coffeehouse

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

THURSDAY

Dec. 5

Donut Stress

Location: CLACS Lobby
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Throw Away Thursday

Location: FLITE Lobby Table
Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

President's Holiday Reception

Location: UC Ballroom
Time: 4 - 6 p.m.



Henna Art

Location: FLITE
Time: 5 - 8 p.m.

Hypnotist Tom DeLuca

Location: Williams Auditorium
Time: 7 p.m.



FRIDAY

Dec. 6

First Friday for First Gen

Location: UC 116
Time: 10 a.m. - Noon



Christmas Party

Location: West Campus Community Center
Time: 5 - 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Dec. 7

19th Annual Voca Lyrica Gloria!

Location: Big Rapids High School
Time: 7 p.m.



SUNDAY

Dec. 8

FSU Band and Orchestra Holiday Concert: "Symphonic Santa Sunday"

Location: Williams Auditorium
Time: 4 - 6 p.m.



MONDAY

Dec. 9

Pancakes with the President

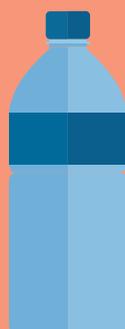
Location: Rock Cafe
Time: 10 a.m.

United Way Can and Bottle Drive

Location: CLACS Office
Time: 2 p.m.

Therapy Dogs

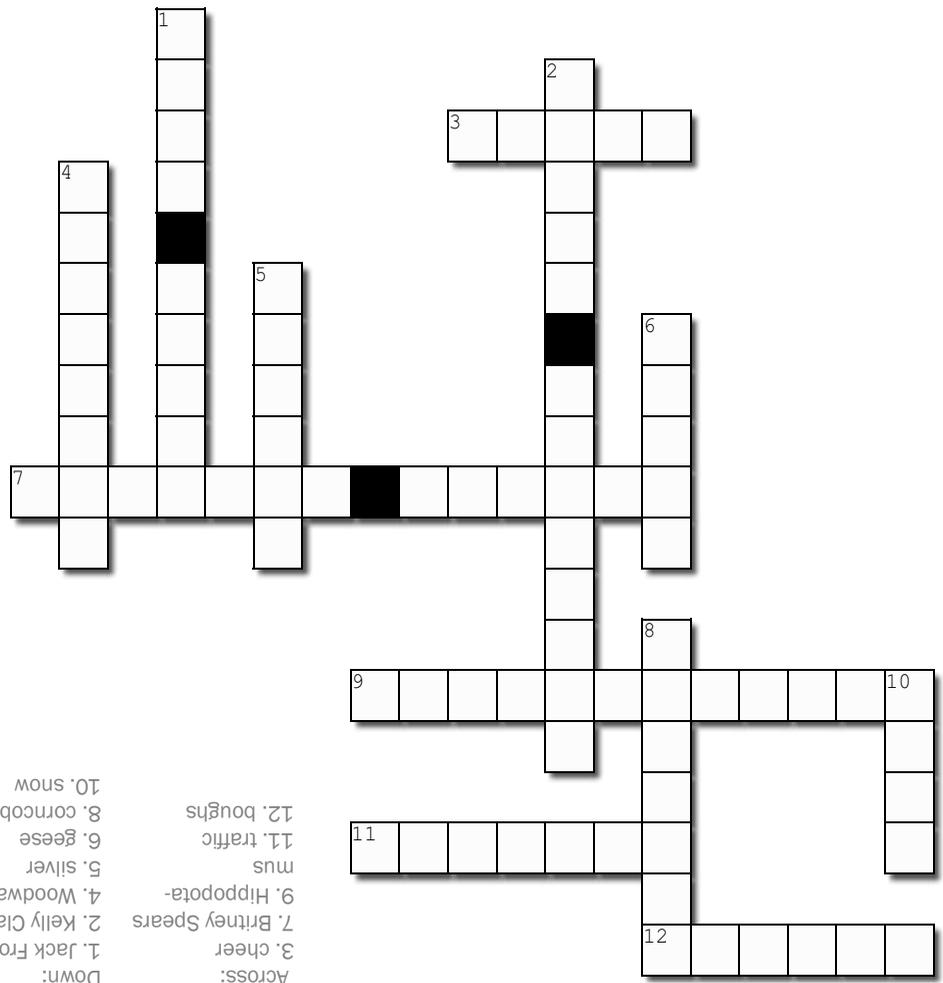
Location: FLITE
Time: 6 - 7 p.m.



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Christmas carols

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Across

- 'I don't know if there'll be snow, but have a cup of ____.'
- 'My Only Wish (This Year)' is sung by this popular female pop star
- 'I want a ____ for Christmas'
- 'From Atlantic to Pacific, gee the ____ is terrific.'
- 'Deck the halls with ____ of holly'

Down

- '____ nipping at your nose'
- 'Underneath the Tree' was released in 2013 by this 'American Idol' winner
- It's Christmas Eve on this popular avenue in Detroit
- ____ bells
- 'Six ____ a-laying'
- 'With a ____ pipe and a button nose and two eyes made out of coal'
- 'I won't ask for much this Christmas. I won't even wish for ____.'

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SPORTS

"I think the ability to adapt and conquer is a huge thing for us."
- Maeve Grimes - See page 11 for story

Cora Hall | Sports Editor | hallc36@ferris.edu

The next man up

Ferris suffers big losses in Barnett and Ceasar in playoff win, but players step up with no excuse mentality

Cora Hall
Sports Editor

Ferris gained over 500 yards of offense for the fourth game in a row in their 37-10 win over No. 4 seeded Central Missouri on Saturday, Nov. 30. Only this time, the yards were lopsided towards rushing, a trend that hasn't been seen since early in the season against Northern Michigan and Davenport.

The No. 1 ranked Bulldogs put up 372 yards of rushing against the Mules and only 153 passing yards, which is the fewest number of passing yards since Saturday, Oct. 5 against Davenport. Ferris tallied only 106 passing yards and 317 rushing yards in that game.

The yardage was fairly even at halftime with 104 passing and 151 rushing, but the second half yielded only 49 passing yards. Senior quarterback Travis Russell was 7-for-18 in the first half and only had seven more passing attempts the rest of the second-round of the NCAA Division II Football Playoff matchup.

A leading factor in this was undoubtedly sophomore wide receiver Sy Barnett leaving the game after dislocating his ankle. Trainers were able to put his ankle back in place but Barnett has reportedly sustained a broken fibula.

Though redshirt freshman wide receiver CJ Jefferson stepped in and came up big with a 58-yard receiving touchdown on one of his first touches of the game, Barnett's absence made an impact.



Tony Annese

"With every win sometimes, there's some negatives and our biggest negative obviously is Sy Barnett got hurt and he's a huge part of our success," Ferris head football coach Tony Annese said.

Annese said they've never been a team to make excuses though, and the next man up mentality has always been present. It goes all the way back to three years ago when junior running back Marvin Campbell was a redshirt freshman who

got his shot in the playoffs. In Ferris' first-round win against Midwestern State in 2016, Campbell had 15 carries for 92 yards.

"I remember a redshirt freshman being here three years ago against Midwestern State and he hadn't played the whole season hardly and I said 'Your time will come, we're going to need you at some point and time' and it was Marvin back in the day as a redshirt freshman against Midwestern," Annese said.

This year, that next man up was Jefferson, and he made it count when the Bulldogs needed it. Along with his touchdown pass, Jefferson made a catch to complete a fourth down conversion midway through Ferris' 99-yard drive that resulted in a touchdown.



Marvin Campbell

Ferris' offense in the second half was driven by Campbell, however, who totaled 151 rushing yards on 19 carries for three unanswered touchdowns. The All-GLIAC First Team running back was not fazed by Barnett going down and said the team always prepares for every player to step up.

"When somebody goes down, it's just the next man up and we do a lot of preparation throughout the week, trying to get everybody prepared in case something



Photo by: Cora Hall | Sports Editor

Junior running back Marvin Campbell rushed for 151 yards and three touchdowns in Ferris' 37-10 win over Central Missouri.

happens like this," Campbell said.

Although Annese admitted he "hated the idea" of having two bye weeks, the extra preparation paid off for his defense, especially, who came up with four interceptions.

"Honestly, I just have to give all the credit to our coaches and our defense because of our coaches," said senior defensive back Alex Thomas, who had two picks. "They did a great preparation for us this week and letting us know what our opponents were going to do and just knowing what formations they were in, so that's pretty much what helped us."

Ferris's defense kept them in the game again, particularly in the first half, with the Bulldogs only leading 16-7 at halftime. Besides the four interceptions, they had three sacks which accounted for 24 lost yards. Ferris was also without GLIAC Defensive Back of the Year senior James Ceasar in the second half after he sprained his ankle. It's unclear how severe the sprain is.

Thomas had 30 return yards on his first interception, which was picked off at the goal line. The interception was early on, but both coaches agreed that the goal line pick changed the momentum of the game.

"You always look at things that turn the momentum like that can have an effect on the game in the end," Central Missouri head coach Jim Svoboda said. "If you look at the disparity in score you'd probably say not as much, but those things happen. Our team's been resilient all year, tremendous obstacles and odds in terms of winning games. I don't think anyone really panicked over it, it's not something that you really choose to do, kids are playing hard and things

happen, so it's kind of how you respond."

Despite going up against the No. 1 ranked defense in passing efficiency, Svoboda said he prepared for Ferris no differently than any other team.

"We're really effective when we mix it up and spread the ball around and try to get the defenses off balance," Svoboda said. "It makes it a little bit tougher against a team like this, obviously, but that's always our goal going in, to be balanced between the run and the pass, be effective in both and be unpredictable in terms of our formations and some of our play calls."

Ferris' possession time in the second half was one of the keys to their victory, with a 99-yard drive that took up nearly eight minutes of game time and resulted in a 1-yard touchdown run by Campbell. They also had an 80-yard drive in the third and a 90-yard drive in the fourth that lasted just over seven minutes and ended with another Campbell touchdown.



Jim Svoboda

On the other side of the bracket, defending champion Valdosta State was upset by No. 5 West Florida 38-35 in the final minute of the game. The Blazers were No. 1 in their region and had gone undefeated in the regular season.

Ferris will now face Northwest Missouri State, who dominated their second-round matchup against Lindenwood 63-7. Ferris will host the Super Region 3 Final on Top Taggart Field at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

WEEKEND SCORECARD

Football

Nov. 30 - Ferris 37
Central Missouri 10

Hockey

Nov. 29 - Ferris 4,
Alaska-Anchorage 1
Nov. 30 - Ferris 4,
Alaska-Anchorage 4(T)

Women's Basketball

Dec. 1 - Ferris 88
Lewis 69

The big dance



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Senior setter Maeve Grimes looks to set up a teammate in a home game earlier this season against McKendree.

Bulldogs look to get out of region for the first time since 2013

Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

Post season play is upon us in Big Rapids and the Ferris volleyball team is about to make their ninth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance.

They have not been able to make it out of the region since 2013. However, the Bulldogs look to make the right adjustments to make sure this postseason ends a different way.

The Bulldogs are entering the national tournament with an overall record of 25-5 and are coming off of their sixth straight regular season GLIAC Championship and their sixth straight GLIAC Conference Tournament Championship.

Since the 2011-2012 season the Bulldogs have been on a tear. Each season has been so successful and similar, it is almost as if they are identical. Last year the team went 27-5. The previous year in 2017 the team went 24-8. Before that in 2016 they went 30-6. Their best year came in 2015 when they hosted the region and went 33-3. All four seasons prior, they won 24 games or more.

So the question is, what will they do to make sure this season doesn't look identical to years past? According to senior outside hitter Courtney Brewer, they have to forget about the past and play without fear of losing.

"Not worrying or thinking about losing. We have talked a lot about just letting go and not playing timid. Whatever happens, happens, and we need to trust that we are prepared and are ready for any team," Brewer said. "The trust we have between one another is insane, this team is different because we are so energetic and every single person on the team wants to win and has respect for one another."

An advantage that the Bulldogs have this year is the experience on the roster. They have three seniors; outside hitter Allyson Cappel, setters Maeve Grimes Lauren Helsen and Brewer. They have four GLIAC Regular Season and Conference Tournament Championships under their belt, as well as an overall record of 106-24 and have played in three NCAA Tournaments. This will be their fourth.

These four seniors have been through the battles of the GLIAC. They have been around to collect what worked in past years and everything which went wrong. With four seniors leading the way, the focus of the team is right where it needs to be.

"If we trust what the girl next to us is doing, we will be alright. I think the ability to adapt and conquer is a huge thing for us," Grimes said. "We've played some very good teams that do things that we don't see in our gym every day and were able to adapt to what they are doing and figure out a way to score. If we can keep that up it'll be very hard to break us down as a team."

Even though these players are focused and are living in the moment, they are still able to take a step back and realize what they have been able to accomplish in the past four years.

"It's so special that we haven't missed a tournament," Grimes said. "We work really hard and it's always a goal of ours to make the postseason. The fact that the seniors and I have made it every season its really cool and we can't wait to get started."

The Bulldogs will play Rockhurst (Missouri) in the first round on Thursday Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. in Romeoville, Illinois at Lewis University, the top-ranked host of the region.

Alaskan turning point



Photo by: Samantha Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Junior forward Coale Norris takes a shot against Northern Michigan on Saturday, Oct. 26. Norris had a goal and an assist in Ferris' 4-1 win over Alaska-Anchorage.

Coming back from their two-weekend trip to Alaska, Bulldog hockey starts to gain momentum

It's simple, when the Bulldogs play stout defense, the team wins games.

While this can be said for every Ferris State athletics team, it is especially noticeable for the hockey team. Sitting at 5-9 there have been quite a few rough patches for the Bulldogs as the team has worked through weekend sweeps from Northern Michigan, Lake Superior State, and Western Michigan.

In the Bulldogs' five victories this season, the defense has been stifling and has allowed 1.2 goals per win. In the nine losses the defense has been much more porous; allowing 4.67 goals per loss.

The trip to Alaska may be what turns the season around for the Bulldogs, though. With multiple top players injured, the Bulldogs were still able to go into Alaska and Alaska-Anchorage and win twice. They scored another point in a shootout loss to Alaska-Anchorage, to go 2-1-1 over the two-weekend trip. They were able to pick up seven out of 12 possible points over the away stand.

Over the four game Alaska trip, goalie play vastly improved, allowing only two goals per game. Take out the 4-4 shootout loss to Alaska-Anchorage and the Bulldogs only allowed 1.67 goals per game.

Senior Goaltender Austin Shaw allowed 1 goal in his only game played on the trip with 27 saves. Freshman Goaltender Carter McPhail then earned the start for the next three games, allowing an average of 2.67 over three games with an average of 29 saves.

With the strong defense, the Bulldogs offensive attack which has averaged 2.86 goals a game was able to pull off two wins and the tie.

The attacking offense has been well spread out



Brendan Sanders
Torch Reporter

this season, with 17 players on the roster scoring at least one goal and 19 players scoring at least one assist. This unselfish mindset carried into the two-week series, with nine different players scoring goals in the four games and ten different players scoring an assist.

Freshman defenseman Jake Willets led the team in points over the last four games with four total points. 13 total players scored points against both Alaska and Alaska-Anchorage.

Moving forward, the Bulldogs will have until Dec. 13 and 14 to prepare for their next opponents when Alabama-Huntsville comes to Big Rapids. Alabama-Huntsville is last in the WCHA conference standings, sitting at 4 points in conference play with one win, eight losses, and a tie.

The Bulldogs sit in ninth place, close behind Alaska-Anchorage and five points behind Bowling Green and Michigan Tech, who are tied for fifth in the WCHA.

If the Bulldogs continue playing the defense they have been playing, they have a chance to make some noise in conference play. There is time for the injuries, which have undoubtedly affected the team, to heal up. With the Bulldogs at full strength, the team has a solid shot to reach its potential.

It may have taken a third of the season, but the Bulldogs appear to be on the right track.

Men's Basketball

Nov. 26 - Ferris 107

Grace Christian 83

Nov. 27 - Ferris 90

East-West University 80



Top Dawg

Riley Blair

Photo by: Will Holden | Torch Photographer



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Thursday, Dec. 5:

- Men's Basketball vs. Wayne State at 5:30 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Wayne State at 7:30 p.m
- Volleyball vs. Rockhurst in NCAA Midwest Region Quarterfinal at 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6:

- Volleyball in NCAA Midwest Region Semifinal at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7:

- Men's Basketball vs. Ashland at 1 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Ashland at 3 p.m.
- Football vs. Northwest Missouri State in NCAA Super Region Final at 1 p.m.
- Volleyball in NCAA Midwest Region Championship at 8 p.m.

Cora Hall Sports Editor

Ferris women's basketball has had a strong start to the season and one of their driving forces is senior forward Riley Blair.

In Sunday's 88-69 win over Lewis University, Blair was perfect from behind the three-point line, going 4-4. She totaled a game-high 28 points and 12-14 overall for shooting.

Blair showed her strengths all-around and had four rebounds, two steals and an assist, all while only clocking in 20 minutes.

This performance isn't out of the ordinary for Blair, either. She was awarded GLIAC Player of the Week this week for the second consecutive week. She was given the honors last week after her 27-point game

against Southern Indiana.

This week marks the fourth week in a row GLIAC Player of the Week was given to a Ferris player, with junior guard Adrienne Anderson bringing home the award the previous two weeks.

Blair is clearly one of the leaders on the team, having started all six games this season and averaging 25 minutes a game. She leads the team in field goal percentage at 55.4% and three-point percentage at 45.5% (out of players who have averaged more than seven minutes a game).

As a seasoned veteran, Blair has gotten consistent minutes and starts since her freshman year. The team will need her leadership if they're going to gain a post season berth again.

The Bulldogs begin GLIAC play on Thursday, Dec. 5, against Wayne State at home.

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A look into who should be on Ferris football's All-Decade team



Brenden Samuels
Torch Reporter

Ferris football began their journey to redemption this weekend, defeating the University of Central Missouri 37-10 to advance to the NCAA Division II Super Region 3 Final.

In celebration of the Bulldogs' victory and all the accolades they've pulled in this season, let's look at some of the best Bulldogs over the last decade.

Ferris' roster has been overflowing with talent for years, but the players listed below have been the best of the best at their position. Some positions have been substituted (i.e. there are no tight ends, only extra wide receivers) because that position was not used and did not warrant recognition.

All dates listed next to each players' name applies to years they were on the football roster within this past decade.

Offense:

- QB: Jason Vander Laan (2011-2015)**
- RB: Jahaan Brown (2013-2017)**
- RB2: Marvin Campbell (2015-Present)**
- WR: Malik Taylor (2014-2018)**
- WR2: Jake Lampman (2011-2015)**
- WR3: Shakur Sanders (2014-2016)**
- WR4: Mike Ryan (2010-2011)**
- WR5: Sy Barnett (2017-Present)**
- OL: Tyler Allison (2015-Present)**
- OL: Jake VanderKlok (2011-2014)**
- OL: Jake Daugherty (2013-2017)**
- OL: Devon Johnson (2014-2018)**
- OL: Nic Sawyer (2015-2018)**

There is no denying that VanderLaan was the most electrifying signal caller to lead the Bulldogs. Arguments could be made for Reggie Bell or Jayru Campbell, but neither compiled the numbers and awards that VanderLaan did over four years.

The backs are self-explanatory. While digging through stats, Brown and Marvin Campbell consistently stuck out above the rest in sheer numbers. Plus, we can't stick quarterbacks here even if they tend to lead all players in rushing yards.

Ferris has been graced by star receivers year after year. Just when you think there's nobody left, an unknown talent elevates his game. Malik Taylor and Jake Lampman stuck out above everybody else. Lampman was a mainstay in the VanderLaan-led unit while Taylor enjoyed a few good seasons before the injury bug came about.

Shakur Sanders was in a league of his own in 2014, pulling 746 yards and eight touchdowns on just 49 catches. Mike Ryan had two spectacular seasons to start the decade (2010-2012) pulling in 1,440 yards and 11 touchdowns over that span. Sy Barnett is a fresh face around campus but has already compiled 1,784 yards and 14 touchdowns over his first two seasons.

There aren't a ton of stats recorded for offensive lineman, but all five listed above won major GLIAC awards proving their ability to create lanes for runners and protect their



Torch File Photos

Among those selected in the Ferris football All-Decade team are former quarterback Jason Vander Laan (left), senior defensive end Austin Edwards (top), former wide receiver Malik Taylor (right) and former defensive back Tavierre Thomas (bottom).

quarterback.

Defense:

- DL: Zach Sieler (2013-2017)**
- DL: Austin Edwards (2015-Present)**
- DL: Chris Okoye (2014-2017)**
- DL: Justin Zimmer (2011-2015)**
- LB: Matt Ryan (2010)**
- LB: Sam Heyboer (2015-Present)**
- LB: Tayo Moss (2010-2012)**
- LB: Anthony Darkangelo (2013-2016)**
- DB: Delon Stephenson (2018-Present)**
- DB: Tavierre Thomas (2014-2017)**
- DB: Troy Smith (2014-2015)**
- DB: James Ceasar (2019-Present)**

Defensive linemen have been amazing over the last five years. Sieler (33 career sacks) and Edwards (17 sacks and 2019 GLIAC Player of the Year) are sack artists who specialize in tracking opposing quarterbacks. Zimmer and Okoye used strength to disrupt both the pass and run games.

The Bulldogs have valued linebackers that can double as a defensive back. Darkangelo and Heyboer are both prototypical linebackers capable of playing the pass while also making tackles by running sideline to sideline.

Stephenson has been a ball hawk, recording nine career

interceptions over two seasons – including a seven-interception performance in 2018. Thomas recorded 14 interceptions over four years at Ferris.

Smith recorded four interceptions in 2014 which landed him an All-GLIAC First Team selection. James Ceasar is the most recent to make this list, as he pulled in the GLIAC Defensive Back of the Year award in 2019 following a six interception and one sack campaign.

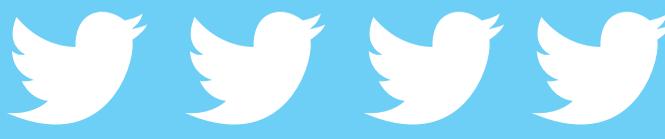
Special Teams:

- K: Wyatt Ford (2014-2017)**
- P: Trevor Bermingham (2012-2016)**
- K/R: Dion Earls (2015-Present)**

Ford was one of the most accurate kickers to take the field for Ferris going 27/35 on Field Goal attempts on his career while also making all 51 of his extra point attempts in 2017. Bermingham averaged 43.4 net yards per punt in 2016, good enough for an All-GLIAC First Team selection.

Dion Earls has averaged over 20 yards per return over his four-year career, including a career best 28.2 yards per return in 2017.

Ferris has had plenty of talent showcased on Top Taggart over the past 10 years, and the future looks even more promising.


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OPINIONS

"I was genuinely disappointed with the fact that we have Pepsi, blue, to represent Ferris State University, red."
- William Byrd - See page 15 for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Noah Poser

Rivalries. They are the foundation of sports. A game against a rival team brings extra passion to players, coaches and fans alike as opposed to any other game.

Take, for example, Ferris and Grand Valley. They are rivals in every way imaginable. Now let's say that Ferris continues to beat Grand Valley in football for the next ten years. Does that kill the deep hatred one school has for the other and absolve said rivalry between the two schools?

Of course not.

I heard grumblings this past weekend after the conclusion of the University of Michigan vs. Ohio State University football game this past weekend. The grumblings about "The Game" were focused on the fact that Ohio State has

dominated Michigan as of late, and therefore it's really not a rivalry at all anymore.

That's absurd.

You see, the technical definition of a rivalry is a competition for the same objective or for superiority in the same field.

The sports definition of a rivalry is a lot more simplistic: wanting to beat the crap out of your most hated opponent.

So as someone who has participated in heated rivalry games, I want to set the record straight.

First of all, just because a team wins the rivalry game, it does not mean "they wanted it more" or that "they just care about the rivalry more."

As someone who was always on the losing side of a high school football rivalry, that is most defi-

Rivalries never die

nitely not the case. In all honesty, we just lacked the talent, similar to Grand Valley when they play Ferris and Michigan when they play Ohio State.

Now, to set another awful notion straight, let's address the ludicrous idea that just because a rivalry is one-sided for a long period of time, it signifies the end of the rivalry.

That is absolutely false.

In fact, in this scenario, I would say that the rivalry only gets that much more intense. You have one team who is tired of getting pounded year after year and getting the public embarrassment that comes along with it.

On the other side, the team dominating the series will only grow more determined to keep their winning going, and thus will

go to great lengths to keep their rival in check.

Rivalries mean so much more to everyone involved in them. They don't just end the moment one team is perennially better than the other. The blood-boiling anger only grows stronger, as does the will to get back on top.

So, next time Jane from math class is talking about how a rivalry goes away because a team always loses their big game, take note. When Joe from the coffee shop says that the players on the losing side "just didn't want it enough," take note.

People talking about this stuff after the fact only shows that rivalries can become one-sided, but they never die.

Joke's on you

Why Facebook should consider flagging satire

Everyone has their take on political and social events, from SNL sketches to Ferris' own Tire Fire. Facebook is littered with little satire story links from websites such as The Onion and Babylon Bee; while they may provide a quick and funny commentary on current events, some people are at risk of taking the "news" as real. People repost and share as fast as their connection allows, and in a matter of moments their thoughts and gullibility are tossed out in public for all their friends to see.

The outcome is funny for a little while as boomers freak out about Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's lack of government knowledge during a faked interview, which was intended to be satire. What follows should be a feeling of sadness for those who truly believe, in this example, Ocasio-Cortez knew next to nothing about the government she was trying to participate in. This was a doctored video, intended to be satire and later rebuked for being deceptive.

No one can afford to just turn a blind eye to current events. Yesterday's ignorance is tomor-

row's bait and laughingstock. I recently saw an older woman share a satire news story about how four Congresswomen, including Ocasio-Cortez, blocked the 9/11 victims fund. This was initially posted in July of this year, as the actual decision was being made. The woman shared it on Facebook in early November, about three months after the bill was signed by President Trump. A few of her friends responded with outraged comments, and one friend shared the post. I wonder how far it spread from there, how many more people were outraged over nothing at all.

People should be responsible for keeping up to date, but sometimes there's just too much to try and comprehend. Satire sites can bene-

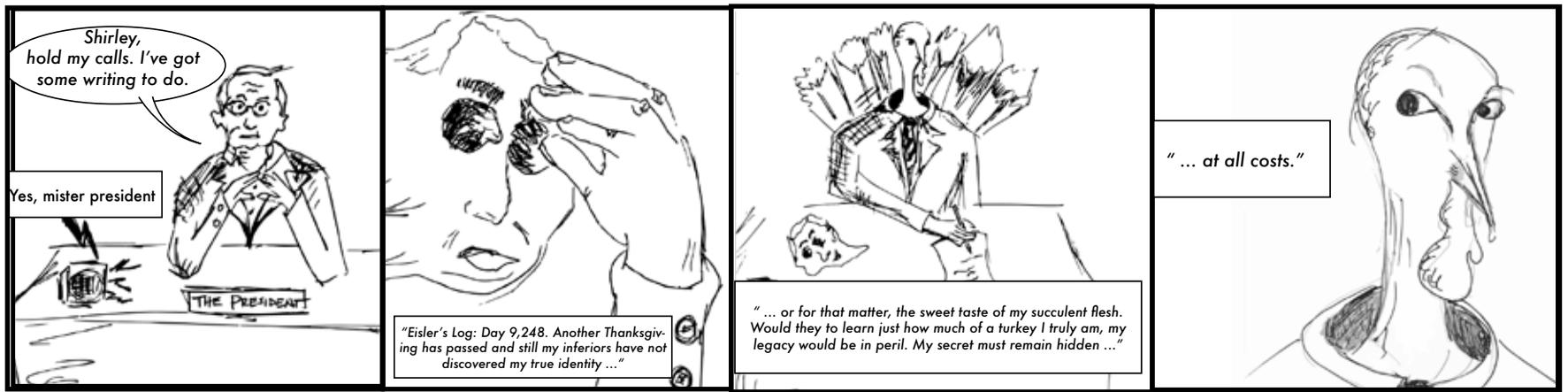
fit from the lack of those informed, but there should be safe guards in place to preserve the dignity of people. It's not always their fault for not knowing everything, and that shouldn't be exploited daily. Facebook and similar sites should put more of an effort on marking satirical articles not to the benefit of individual's dignity, but to prevent the spread of false information and the widening of the chasm between the political left and right.

At the end of the day, it's still funny to watch people fall for practical jokes. I'd be lying if I said I didn't take some small humor from people being cringey on the internet. This is more than cringe though, this has the potential to be disastrous. Bite-sized headlines summarize content and seem to tell readers everything they need to know without reading the whole article. This can allow misinformation to spread like wildfire and damage already strained relations.



Abigail Maskill
Production Assistant

Meanwhile in President Eisler's Office



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!



Graphic by: William Byrd | Production Assistant

Overthrow the Pepsi oligarchy

Why Ferris needs to delete that garbage juice

When it comes to the variety of drinks offered at Ferris, there aren't a lot of options and it evokes similarities to Mad Max with their need for clean water. Of course, Pepsi is the culprit for this conundrum, running a monopoly on Ferris State University beverages. Being subjected to the vile, inferior soda brand that this school dispenses, no matter the flavor, it churns my stomach. Drinking these pernicious liquids burns holes in my dietary tract.

Why must we submit to this iron rule of PepsiCo, Inc.? I can't find a single spectacle of Coca-Cola anywhere on campus — where is it? It should only be fair to have both companies on campus. I don't know the exact deal our campus made with Pepsi but it's what the kids would call "selling out." The lack of Coke on campus is so grossly apparent that when my fellow cronies enter the threshold of my domain, they expect only the finest glass of Coca-Cola.



William Byrd
Production Assistant

The overpowering amount of trash that Pepsi brings deprives my companions of actual flavor — such abominations as Sierra Mist, Pepsi Maxx, Brisk and 7Up. Think about all the classics Coke has to offer: Sprite, Barqs, Minute Maid and Fanta! We could belong to the upper echelon of the drink world, falling in with some of the greatest companies around such as McDonalds, Wendy's, Burger King, In-and-out, Five Guys and the list goes on! Coke even matches our colors.

I was genuinely disappointed with the fact that we have Pepsi, blue, to represent Ferris State University, red. Seeing the clean color of Coke glistening in the sun always makes my fellow scholars and I always feel morally obligated to consume

its delicious flavors and enrich our very souls. When we spot a Coke, it's impossible to not turn into animals — offering any form of currency for a meager morsel of that fine, fine elixir. I'm sure if we ran a vote for every student at Ferris there would undoubtedly be a landslide of votes in favor to remove Pepsi from our campus and make Coke king. It's not just students either, I've seen my professors guzzling down that sweet nectar because they know that they're not going to drink that garbage juice students are provided.

I might sound crazy, but this goes deeper than you think, what do the professors know that we don't?

Overall, we need this change, our people are deprived of flavor and taste. When you think about the cost benefits, adding Coke to the Ferris arsenal of drinks is the right direction to go moving forward. If we want to be the best school out there then we need to have the best drink.

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