

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

**HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE**

**LOVE YOURSELF**

*Looking for a little pep to your step? This article will give you a nice ego boost to get your day started off on the right foot.*

**NEWS | PAGE 2**

**HIGH HOPES**

*The softball season gets underway this weekend. Check out how the team is feeling as they get ready to kick off the new campaign.*

**SPORTS | PAGE 12**

# Hoodie Allen to headline MTA

## Hoodie Allen and Joey Purp coming to Ferris

**Grant Siddall**  
Torch Reporter

Entertainment Unlimited (EU) has announced that rapper Hoodie Allen will headline Music Takes Action (MTA) on Saturday, April 4.

Allen will be joined for the performance at Wink Arena by special guest and fellow rapper, Joey Purp.

Student tickets will become available on Feb. 10, in the Entertainment Unlimited office located in UCB 121 for \$5. Students are able to purchase one ticket at the \$5 price between Feb. 10 and Feb. 21, at 4 p.m., after which ticket prices will rise to \$15. Tickets will be available at Wink Arena on the day of the show for \$20 and can also be purchased online through Star Tickets. Doors will open for the event at 7 p.m.

Hoodie Allen is perhaps best known for his songs "No Interruption," "Surprise Party," and "Champagne and Pools." The latter two songs feature 2018 Music Takes Action headliner blackbear. Allen's album "All American," which contains his most listened to song, "No Interruption," peaked at number 18 on the Billboard Hot 100 charts in 2012, and in 2014, his album "People Keep Talking" peaked at number 8, making them his most commercially successful albums.

Joey Purp has yet to release a studio album but released mixtapes in 2012, 2016 and 2018. Purp's most popular song "Girls @," which features Chance the Rapper was on the 2016 mixtape "iiidrops" and "Elastic," his second most listened to song, was on 2018's "QUARTERTHING."

Artists are ultimately chosen by EU but student feedback plays a major part of the decision. Surveys are sent to students during the first semester and allow EU to gain information on what kind of artist students at Ferris are looking for. This year, despite the survey being emailed to all students, EU only received about 200 responses. Ferris music and entertainment senior and MTA co-coordinator, Veronica Anderson said the top responses for this year's survey were pop, and hip-hop, followed by country in third place. Hoodie Allen falls into the Pop rap genre, seemingly covering both of the top two selections.

Ferris students initially had a mixed reaction to the announcement. "I'm definitely interested in Hoodie Allen," said Ferris insurance freshmen Grant Clark. "I've listened to him probably since middle school and I'm a freshman in college now. Hoodie Allen made great music back in the day and I can imagine he still makes great music now. I haven't listened in a little bit but I'm definitely interested in the concert for sure. To me he has a couple of classics... No Interruption, No Faith in Brooklyn, and a just a lot of his older songs."

Ferris international business and Spanish for the professions sophomore Xavion Murphy-Gill said he was unfamiliar with the artists, a statement echoed by several other students around him.

"Personally, I don't know [Allen and Purp,] I've never heard of their music, but I think it's a good opportunity for people to reach different genres of music," Murphy-Gill said. "I feel maybe the majority of the community at Ferris knows these artists, but certain groups don't. I think people will come out just for the simple fact that it's an on-campus event, it's music and people like music so they'll enjoy the event regardless."

For each ticket sold for the event, \$1 will be donated to the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly. Donations will also be accepted at the event.



*Photo courtesy of: Substream Magazine*

Hoodie Allen was selected to come to Ferris State for the Music Takes Action event on April 4.

**TICKETS ON SALE IN UCB 121**

\$5 for students from now until Feb. 21 at 4 p.m.

Prices increase to \$15 after this date

Got news? Let us know.

Email: [fsutorcheditor@gmail.com](mailto:fsutorcheditor@gmail.com)  
Phone: 231.591.5978



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  
FERRIS STATE TORCH



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER  
@FSUTORCH



ADD US ON INSTAGRAM  
FSUTORCH



WATCH US ON YOUTUBE  
FSU TORCH

Connect with us on social media - Read articles online at [www.fsutorch.com](http://www.fsutorch.com)

# NEWS

“You get a different understanding of how people live and adapt”  
- DeeDee Wesley - See below for story

Trenton Carlson | News Editor | carlst24@ferris.edu

# Learn how to travel, to learn

## *New study abroad options available*

Veronica Mascorro  
Torch Reporter

While many will be spending their spring break at home, Ferris business administration sophomore Renae Schretter will be in Peru soaking up the culture.

For the first time, Ferris is offering a chance for students to study abroad in Peru over spring break. While there, students will be traveling to Lima, Iquitos and Cusco.

Schretter is looking forward to being able to travel to Peru, even though it wasn't her original destination. A group of students were originally going to study abroad in China, however due to the Coronavirus scare that is occurring in China, the trip was canceled and many took the chance to travel to Peru to not abandon an opportunity to study abroad. Regardless of destination, Schretter is still glad to be able to study in another country.



Renee Schretter

“I'm super excited, we have a lot of cool stuff that we're going to check out in Peru so I think I'm just as excited as if we were going to China.” Schretter said.

Aside from Peru, Ferris is partnered with many schools across the world. Ferris works with these schools to exchange students and allow them to study abroad anywhere from a semester to a full year. Ferris currently has partner schools in Finland, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, South Korea and Spain.

Some students, however, might not want to spend a semester or year abroad. Luckily for them Ferris offers short-term summer programs as well. They offer one program in

South Korea with a partner university that lasts three to ten weeks, and also have faculty-led programs that last two to four weeks. The locations vary every year, but past locations have included Costa Rica, El Salvador, China, Haiti, Italy, Martinique and Scotland.

If none of these options work with what a student may have in mind, the Office of International Education can also help students work with affiliate programs, although these tend to be more expensive.

The Office of International Education is very hands-on and works to help students map out their road to studying abroad. To start off, students attend three workshops so they can begin to learn about the different options that are available, and what a student can gain from studying abroad.

Education abroad coordinator at the Office of International Education, Megan Hauser-Tran, leads these workshops and cannot express enough how valuable the studying abroad experience is, and the ways many students understand what she means when they return from their travels.

“I tell students about all the benefits: that you can learn a language, you can challenge yourself, you can learn more about who you are and where you're from when you're not being there anymore,” Hauser-Tran said. “And you can also learn about other cultures and other ways of thinking.”

As the workshops progress, students learn more specific details and begin planning how to budget the trip and the application process in order to study abroad. After all three

sessions students receive a \$30 voucher for travel health insurance while abroad.

Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman DeeDee Wesley hopes to be able to study abroad in Costa Rica.

“My family is Dominican and I was about eight when I came here,” Wesley said. “So that's really the only experience outside of the U.S. that I've had, and my sister always encouraged me to do it, so I wanted to do it for the new experiences. And also for the culture — you get a different understanding of how people live and adapt.”

Ferris social studies education freshman Rosy Roa believes that studying abroad could give her the opportunity to familiarize herself to different cultures and potentially open a door for her if she wants to teach in foreign countries. She hopes to start this journey by traveling to South Korea.

Hauser-Tran also expressed that although studying abroad may seem intimidating, students are not alone in this process. Everyone in the Office of International Education is available to help with questions and to look into anything a student may need.

“You are considering going to a new place, you're considering having an experience unlike anything you might have had before, and it might sound like a lot of work, having to apply and find scholarships, but my best advice is to, just go for it.” Hauser-Tran said. “Put in the effort and do it because it will pay off enormously.”

If anyone is interested in studying abroad, students can reach out directly and contact Megan Hauser-Tran at MeganHauserTran@ferris.edu. They can also attend one of the weekly workshops that are held 1 p.m. every Friday in IRC 104.

# Love yourself

## What is Love Your Body Week?

Veronica Mascorro  
Torch Reporter

Across the nation many universities observe a Love Your Body Week, but what is it?

Love Your Body Week (LYBW) is a national campaign that aims to raise awareness about body image and promote body confidence by celebrating body diversity. The idea of the campaign is that every body is a valid body.

A big supporter of this movement is the Butterfly Foundation based in Australia. The Butterfly Foundation found that one in two people surveyed said their body weight and shape was important compared to other things in their life. Yet over 40% of people were unhappy with their appearance. Furthermore, they found that 50% of people don't participate or do things they enjoy because of how they feel about their appearance.

Much of this mentality stems from the unrealistic beauty standards left in people's minds. This is often talked about in regards to woman and young girls, but for males it is talked about less.

Ferris pre-physical therapy freshman Kenneth Smith is glad that Ferris is providing the time and space for students

to learn about body positivity. Smith participates in body building and is consistently at the Student Recreation Center, working on becoming the best that he can be and always encourages others to be there best as well.

“These types of events on campus provide an opportunity for those who don't work out to start that kind of lifestyle,” Smith said. “Often you find that people are intimidated or just don't have the knowledge they need to get started. So, with an event like this it can help bring those people together along with others in the same boat as them.”



Kenneth Smith

Social media is seen to be a leading cause in some having a negative view in their body image and Smith agrees with this.

“With social media the way it is today, it's easy to find models online that some may say have a 'perfect' body,” Smith said. “It can cause people to compare themselves to that. In reality it often times isn't true what they see. Many fitness models use camera work and lightning to alter photographs. Many people don't think about this though.”

Another influence social media can have is through sponsorships.

Companies such as Flat Tummy Tea, which primarily sells a detox diet tea and meal supplements, often reach out to various influencers on platforms such as Instagram to get them to advertise their products. The problem with this is that influencers can make it out to seem as if only drinking the detox tea product was what made them lose weight. If used improperly, these supplements can be an unhealthy and a dangerous way for people to lose weight.

Smith also believes that both men and women struggle with being content with their body image equally.

“Men may hide it more than women for their own reasons, but it definitely is something everyone deals with.” Smith said.

LYBW is aiming to help teach students to do the opposite of this. The goal is to show students they should love their body and learn the proper ways to truly take care of it.

Love Your Body Week will run the week of Feb. 10 to the 14. With various events being held at the Student Recreation Center. Students can see what time these events are being held online on the Ferris web calendar at calendar.ferris.edu

# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Trenton Carlson  
News Editor

## China, Taikoo Li

Products such as General Motors cars and Apple iPhones are at a standstill for production as people cannot return to work in Taikoo Li, after China locked down one of its busiest cities in an attempt to prevent a viral outbreak. This is leaving China's economy, one of the world's largest, oddly still. This may soon cause the global economy to suffer the longer China's economy stays quiet. Government officials are comparing this economic slow due to the coronavirus to that of medieval Europe.

Original article by Keith Bradsher, Feb. 10, 2020. The New York Times.

## International Waters

A cruise ship, the Diamond Princess, in Japan is being quarantined after a coronavirus outbreak was reported onboard. The amount of infected people has doubled from the beginning of the quarantine. The tally of infected passengers and crew members has now reached 135 as of Monday. The ship will continue its two-week quarantine in the port of Yokoamma.

Original article by Ben Dooley and Motoko Rich, Feb. 10, 2020. The New York Times.

## Arkansas, US

Two police officers were injured in a shootout leaving the suspect dead at a Walmart in Forrest City Arkansas. Police were responding to a call that a man was making threats in the grocery section of the store. Deon Lee, the police chief said although officers were injured, many lives were saved due to the fast response time of officers.

Original article by Christine Hauser, Feb. 10, 2020. The New York Times.

## Israel

The personal data of 6.5 million Israeli voters was exposed due to a software flaw during the election. Although it is unclear how many people took this information, the flaw left the entire voter registry available to anyone without any special understanding of technology or equipment. This software flaw is linked to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's mobile app used to communicate with voters.

Original article by Daniel Victor, Sheera Frenkel and Isabel Kershner, Feb. 10, 2020. The New York Times.

# - ON THE RECORD -

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

## What's this button do?

Trenton Carlson  
News Editor

### You should have fixed it.

An officer stopped a vehicle with a defective headlight at the corner of Konellview and South Street. The driver of the vehicle was a minor and was found to be in possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. The driver was cited and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

### I swear I looked everywhere!

A student called in reporting that his wallet had been stolen from his dorm. He proceeded to call back later on and reported that he had found his wallet.

### What's this button do?

Officers responded to a 911 call from the elevators at Maple Grove apartments. Upon arrival there was no one in the area. No crime has been reported.

### You can't do it on campus!

Officers responded to Travis Hall where two students were reported to be smoking marijuana. They were both found and have been reported to student conduct.

# NEWS BRIEFS

Trenton Carlson  
News Editor

## Love your body week

This week the Recreation Center is hosting Love Your Body Week. Each day of the week brings with it a separate event to promote healthy living. Events provide students with information on how to live a healthy life as well as plans specific to individuals to improve their health. For more information on Love Your Body Week, contact the student recreation center, or visit the Ferris State event calendar.

## Euchre tournament

University Recreation is hosting a euchre tournament on Wednesday Feb. 12, in the Recreation Center at 7:00 p.m. To participate in the event, applicants must sign up with IMLeagues to secure a spot in the tournament roster. For more information on the tournament, contact the Student Recreation Center or visit the Ferris State event calendar.

## "A Message From a Black Man"

The founding director of the Office of Minority Student Affairs, now the Office of Multicultural Student Services, Raymond Grant, is hosting the keynote speech of Black History Month, "A Message From a Black Man," in the IRC room 120. The speech will take place on Thursday Feb. 13, at 6:00 p.m. For more information on the event, visit the Ferris State event calendar.

## Table tennis tournament

Student Recreation will be hosting a table tennis tournament Friday, Feb. 14, at 2:00 p.m. in the gym. Anyone interested in participating in the tournament should sign up through IMLeagues to be added to the tournament roster. For more information on the tournament contact the Recreation Center or visit the Ferris State event calendar.

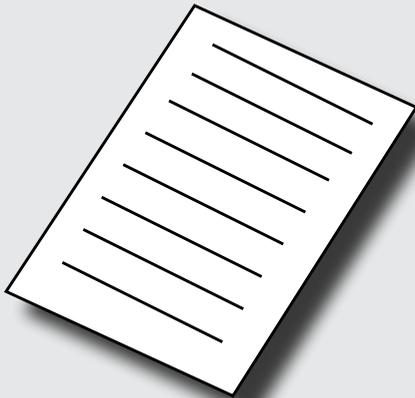
# Torch Corrections

Did we make a mistake?  
Let us know!

Corrections can be submitted through email at [fsutorcheditor@gmail.com](mailto:fsutorcheditor@gmail.com) or by calling 231-591-5978

# JOIN US AT THE TORCH! WE ARE HIRING

## LOOKING FOR: WRITERS COPY EDITORS



## COME AND VISIT US AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION! OR CONTACT OUR EIC: NOAH POSER



**CASH IS CARRY ROSE SPECIAL  
12 ROSES FOR \$29.99**

*Don't Forget Your Valentine On February 14th!*

**Patterson's Flowers Has Great Gifts For Your Valentine!**

*Cuddly Plush Animals, Homemade Fudge and Godiva Chocolates, Balloons, Cards, Beautiful Flowers, Romance Rose Petals & Much More!*

**Patterson's Flowers & Gifts, Inc.**

216 Maple Street (Across from Jets Pizza)  
Located in Historic Downtown Big Rapids

**796-8683**

Call Us 24 Hours A Day 7 Days A Week!

**BEAUTIFUL FRESH FLOWERS AND UNIQUE GIFTS!**



**www.pattersonflowers.com**

# Rank Choice Voting

**Hannah McKeen**  
Torch Reporter

Some people believe their vote won't matter and there is no point in going to the polls. Rank choice voting could change that.

Live outreach director for Rank MI Vote Ron Zimmerman hosted an event Wednesday, Feb. 5, that presented the workings and benefits of rank choice voting.

Zimmerman's key point, one that he circled back to many times during the talk, and reiterated in a personal interview, was how people should have the opportunity to believe their votes matter and actually feel represented in the polls.



Ron Zimmerman

"We're going across the state ... to educate people on the deficiencies of our current voting system and how that plays into the poor politics and poor democracy that we're seeing," said Zimmerman. "There's a lot of people afraid to vote their will, afraid to vote the candidate that best represents them because they'll feel like they're wasting their vote."

Zimmerman began the talk by showing a video discussing how America's politics are broken, but there is still hope for the system to be mended.

One suggested fix which, if proposed correctly, could include several of the others, was rank choice voting.

Rank choice voting may not guarantee that a voter's first choice wins, but it gives voters the freedom to rank their favorite candidates in order of their choice. Once all of the ballots have been turned in, they are run through an algorithm that sorts each candidate in order, just like a normal election. However, that is where the system changes. If no candidate has the support of 50% of the voters, the candidate with the

lowest support is removed and the candidate on each ballot that was listed as a voter's second choice is given that vote. The pattern continues until a candidate has a clear majority vote, taking into account every eligible voter's ballots.

This is not a new development. Ireland and Australia have been using this system for almost 100 years to decide major positions. Eastpointe, Mich., used rank choice voting last November. Five more states have already been approved to use it in the 2020 primary election.

"They're already seeing more women, more people of color, not just running but winning ... and a 15% to 20% increase in voter turnout," said Zimmerman. "More people feel like their vote counts in the end."

Some states have rank choice voting as an option for certain occupations, but not for everyone. For example, Louisiana allows only military and people working overseas to use rank choice voting.

Zimmerman explained that this system is used to avoid run-off, saving millions of dollars by preventing any extra campaigns.

Despite the low attendance, rank choice voting is still seeing support in Big Rapids. There are local organizations and political groups that have reached out to Zimmerman in order to help him spread the word.

"I've felt that I've thrown my vote away the last two presidential elections, and I'm sick of it," Ferris business administration and human resources senior Stella Mayo said,

Mayo is not alone in such feelings, which is part of the reason there is a growing wave of support for rank choice voting.

While it may not be something that can be implemented right away, Rank MI Vote is working hard to move forward in Michigan and are always looking for donations and volunteers. Anyone who wants to be involved or learn more can sign up at [rankmivote.com](http://rankmivote.com); they even have a collection of cool shirts for anyone looking to expand their wardrobe.

## A proposal that would make every vote matter



Photo by: Hannah McKeen | Torch Reporter

Ron Zimmerman speaks about the Rank MI Voting System.

## Get ahead on your degree this summer!

Classes May 11-Aug. 18, with a variety of start dates.

[grcc.edu/Summer](http://grcc.edu/Summer)

**Grand Rapids Community College**  
*Easy transfer. Save on tuition. Quality education.*

# Ferris explores anxiety

*Staff and students learned how to recognize people with anxiety and what they could do to help*

**Trevor Kowal**  
Interim Reporter

Ferris State presented staff and students the opportunity to get an inside look at the effects that anxiety has on memory and concentration.

The IRC hosted the cognitive development event Monday, Feb. 10, in room 107. It also had a focus on helping students overcome issues with anxiety. The event focused on teaching students and staff how to recognize when a student has anxiety and how they could possibly help.

Anxiety is one of the most common forms of mental illness among young adults, especially college students. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, 18.1% of adults in the United States suffer from this disorder each year.

"This event is designed to shed light on how cognition is interrupted by anxiety. It is designed from an education stance so that preservice teachers can think about possible ways to handle students that may have anxiety," said Andrea Kitomary, student retention program coordinator and event coordinator of this event.

Preservice teachers got a first-hand look at how to identify anxiety and how to help future students who may have anxiety. Once in the field, preservice teachers will have the knowledge and skills to react to situations.

"I believe it could make a huge impact on kids dealing with anxiety issues, especially if the teacher can notice the problem and resolve it before it gets worse," Hunter Cleland, junior of Plastics Engineering and Technology program said.

Students got a chance to understand the cognitive development stages of the brain and learn strategies to cope with memory and concentration issues.

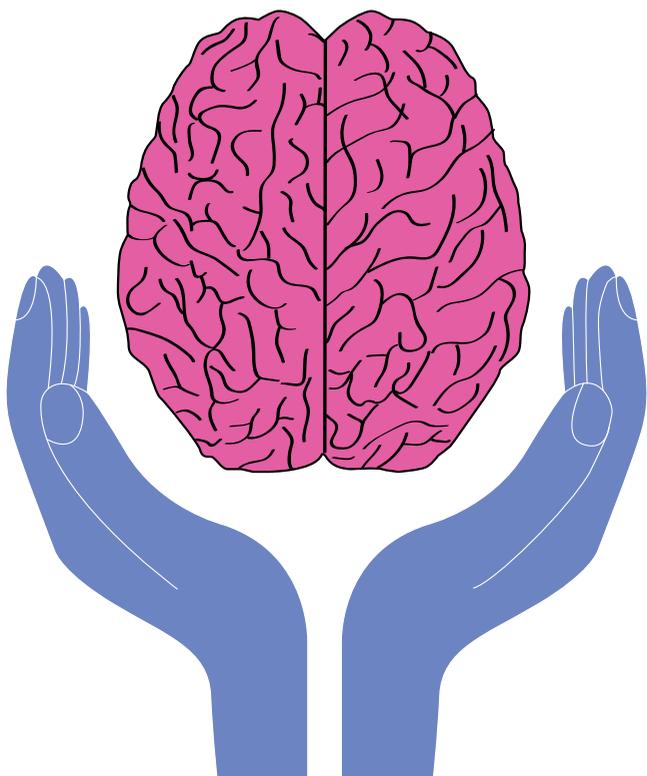
According to The American Institute of Stress, more than 18 million students enrolled in college in 2017, and 1.3 million of them expressed anxiety within their first year.

This event was able to help students of all majors, as well as preservice teachers, notice the effects of anxiety and how it blocks memory and concentration.

Ferris freshman, Josh Wieber, a manufacturing engineering technology major, said he would like to understand better what people are going through and what is on their mind each day. Josh was also interested in how people deal with anxiety on an every-day basis.

The cognitive development event serves is an important topic for most students who suffer from mental illness each day.

Ferris offers a personal counseling center for students dealing with a variety of different illnesses. For more information, to acquire help on this topic, visit Birkham Health Center on the Ferris website.



Graphic by: Production Staff

# WANTED

## EDITOR IN CHIEF

### Ferris State Torch

#### 2020 - 21 SCHOOL YEAR:

We are seeking an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor in Chief position during the 2019 - 20 school year. Candidates must write well, possess excellent leadership skills and be prepared to work the entire school year. Candidates should be familiar with basic journalistic principles, as well as printed and digital publishing techniques. Qualified students can receive competitive wages for up to 20 hours per week. Ability to work and train in April and August of 2019 is necessary. Prior journalism experience or training required.

*The Torch offers a chance to work in a professional "real world" environment and adds excellent credentials to your resume*

#### APPLICANTS NEED TO SUBMIT:

- Resume
- One-page (typed) essay answering the following:
  - >> Why do I want to be Editor-in-Chief?
  - >> What should be the goals of a student-run newspaper?
  - >> How will I, as Editor-in-Chief, ensure that the newspaper reaches its goals?
- Copies of articles or other written work
- At least two references (recommendation letters not required)

#### SEND RESUME, ESSAY AND CLIPPINGS TO:

Garrett Stack at [stackg1@ferris.edu](mailto:stackg1@ferris.edu)

DEADLINE: Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020

**CHECK US OUT ONLINE FOR EXCLUSIVE ARTICLES AND PHOTO GALLERIES AT [WWW.FSUTORCH.COM](http://WWW.FSUTORCH.COM)**

# \$\$\$Money Matters\$\$\$

#### Need a Job?

There are several job opportunities currently available in the Big Rapids community and local school systems. These employers are looking for Ferris students to fill these jobs. Check them out by logging into the FSU job posting website and view "On-campus jobs". If you see jobs beginning with "Off campus" then you are eligible to apply for these positions. Apply Now!

#### Looking for Tax Documents?

As tax season begins, your parents may be asking you to provide them with tax documents. To locate your 1098T – log into MyFSU, student tab, My Account icon, ESCI 1098T icon. Select the appropriate tax year (2019).

If you worked on campus in 2019, log into MyFSU, student tab, Life@FSU icon, then find "W2 Year End Earnings Statement" in the Student Employment section.

# LIFESTYLES

“This organization is a way to have a community and a way to learn about other cultures.”

- Sandra Ramirez Espinoza - See page 9 for story

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

# Workaholics

## How student employees make the best of their work



Photo by: Big Rapids Daily News website

**Kendall Rooks**  
Torch Reporter

Many students work every day on top of being in school and clubs. This may sound overwhelming but some students working on campus find their jobs quite rewarding and surprisingly interesting.



Cameron Bourlier

Cameron Bourlier is a senior in actuarial science who works in the tutoring center on campus. Bourlier focuses on math and hopes to make an impact on students one tutoring session at a time.

“When someone says, ‘thanks that really helped,’ it makes me feel really good as a person when I can explain it to them well,” Bourlier said. “Or occasionally I’ll get ‘you explained it better than my professor does.’ Everyone learns differently and I have to give props to the professors because it’s hard to explain something to a large group of people.”

Bourlier pointed out that the job has other perks too. As a student with multiple jobs he finds it easy to maintain his time because the tutoring center is so flexible with his hours. They also allow Bourlier to do his homework on the job, which he says is a big bonus.



Jordan Williams

Jordan Williams, a senior in secondary biology and technical education works as a DPS dispatcher. Her job includes answering 24/7 emergency and non-emergency calls on physical altercations, medical responses, fires, and more.

“I like dealing with the students, I like talking to you guys, and being able to help people,” Williams said. “You help a lot of individuals whether it be sending someone over to a call or with events on campus. I like the community of all of it.”

Williams continued by saying that aside from being able to help students in need, another cool part of her job is being around all of the police officers who work at DPS.

“The officers know us and being able to interact and talk to them, I definitely think that’s a cool part of the job. Especially because I am not in criminal justice and wouldn’t talk to them otherwise.” Williams said.

Tyler Osborne works alongside Williams at what many students think of as the worst job on campus. Osborne is a junior in the Criminal Justice program and works as a service officer giving out parking tickets. Aside from dealing with students angered by the yellow envelopes Osborne finds his job is much cooler than you would think.



Tyler Osborne

For one, he gets to drive a public safety vehicle around. He enjoys not being behind a desk all day and walking around campus.

“My favorite part is the positive interactions with the students around campus and helping people find buildings, especially for tours,”

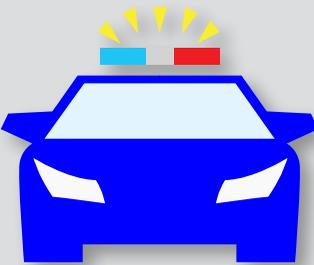
Osborne said. “The public has the most interaction with us because we’re actually out in the field.”

It is not always easy to find pleasure in your job, but these students are doing exactly that.

For more information about jobs on campus go to the portal located under the “life at ferris” tab in MyFSU.

## Places to work and jobs on campus

- Rock
- Quad
- Aerobics instructor
- CLACS
- Dining services
- Diversity office
- Graphic designer
- Inventory specialist
- IT solutions
- Desktop specialist
- Orientation leader
- Writing Center consultant
- Social Media and Marketing assistant
- Torch
- Rec Center



**CRIMES ON CAMPUS CAN BE REPORTED TO DPS AT -231-591-5000-**



**FOLLOW US ON  
INSTAGRAM**  
**@FSUTORCH**

### Hoodie Allen

T	D	A	M	N	M	B	L	M	K	T	A	N	E
M	B	E	T	O	O	I	N	V	E	S	T	E	D
O	D	U	E	E	D	L	I	D	V	A	T	V	E
C	O	M	E	A	R	O	U	N	D	W	N	E	R
C	N	D	D	B	K	M	D	E	E	H	E	R	O
U	I	E	Y	E	T	I	T	U	M	A	T	G	D
V	A	L	L	F	O	R	M	E	O	T	R	O	K
A	R	T	T	V	N	H	Y	K	T	E	Y	I	M
W	U	T	T	D	H	G	Y	I	G	V	H	N	M
Y	D	A	E	R	T	N	I	A	N	E	W	G	L
T	D	T	A	T	O	M	O	A	I	R	K	B	M
E	D	R	O	G	D	B	E	E	K	U	D	A	O
K	A	E	R	B	T	R	A	E	H	S	I	C	N
E	T	A	E	A	E	I	L	N	T	A	U	K	A

TOO INVESTED  
NEVER GOING BACK  
AINT READY  
MAD  
WHATEVER USA  
ALL FOR ME  
COME AROUND  
KING TO ME  
IDK WHY  
HEARTBREAK

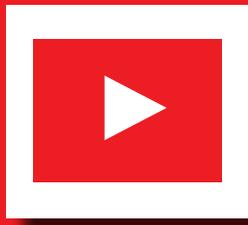


**TORCH TUNES  
COMING  
SOON  
TO A SPOTIFY  
STATION  
NEAR YOU**

**PODCAST  
MUSIC  
AND MORE**



**WATCH US ON  
YOUTUBE  
FSUTORCH**





**Limited Time**  
*Only*  
**We'll Save You**  
**\$280.00**

Just sign your lease by  
**Feb 29th** & we'll waive your  
**SECURITY DEPOSIT**  
a \$280.00 value

ALSO ALL RATES HAVE BEEN  
REDUCED! PAY AS LITTLE AS \$340 A  
MONTH & CHOOSE A GIFT WHEN  
YOU TAKE A TOUR!

*Call us now for more information*  
**(231) 796-4900**

**NEW  
CLUBHOUSE  
&  
24HR  
FITNESS  
CENTER**



**AMENITIES:**

- FREE WIRELESS
- FREE CABLE W/HBO
- AMPLE PARKING
- RESIDENT EVENTS
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- FREE PRINT/COPY

**FEATURES:**

- 4 BED / 4 BATH UNITS
- 3 BED / 2 BATH UNITS
- 2 BED / 1 BATH UNITS
- INDIVIDUAL LEASES
- ON-SITE MANAGEMENT
- ON-SITE MAINTENANCE
- SHORT WALK TO FSU
- PET FRIENDLY
- CENTRAL AIR

**FLAT RATE  
OF \$340  
FOR A  
12 INSTALL  
LEASE**



**CampusVillage.com/BigRapids**

Stop by. Give us a call.  
Or find us online.

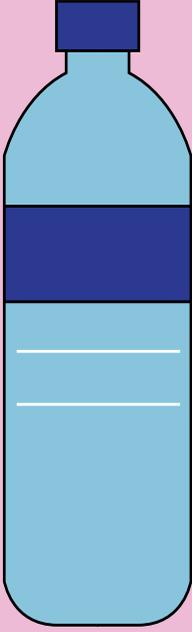
217 Morrison Street  
Big Rapids, MI 49307

PH: (231) 796-4900




# Events calendar

## WEDNESDAY



Feb. 12

### RSO Advisor Round Table Discussion

Location: UCB 121  
Time: 12 - 1 p.m.

### RSO Recognitaion Workshop

Location: UC 213  
Time: 1 - 1:45 p.m.

### Do You Know Your DISC- Leadership Profiling

Location: CLACS  
Time: 5 - 6 p.m.

### Love Your Body- Water Wednesday

Location: Rec Center  
Time: 6 - 9 p.m.

## THURSDAY

Feb. 13

### Palentine's Day

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

### Love Your Body- Thrive Thursday

Location: Rec Center  
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

### "A Message From a Black Man" - Mr. Raymond Gant

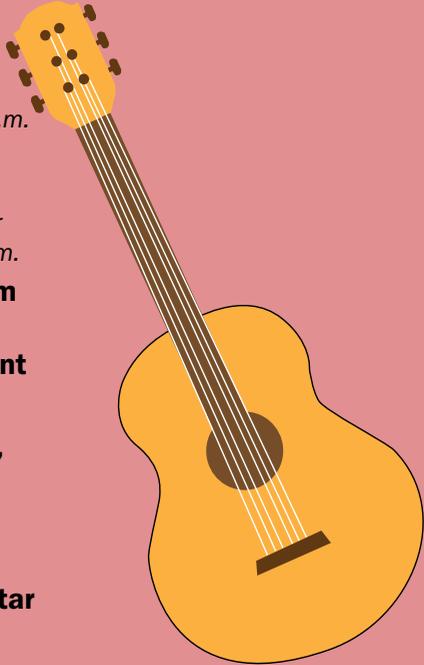
Location: IRC 120  
Time: 6 - 7:30 p.m.

### "Loving Vincent"

Film Showing  
Location: IRC 109  
Time: 7 - 9 p.m.

### Minneapolis Guitar Quartet

Location: Big Rapids Festival of Arts  
Time: 7:30 p.m.



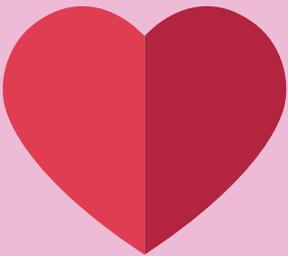
## FRIDAY

Feb. 14

### St. Valentine's Day

### Love Your Body- Fit Friday

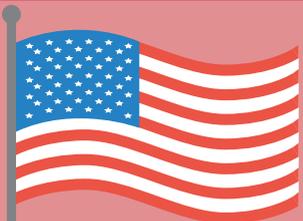
Location: Rec Center  
Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



## MONDAY

Feb. 17

### President's Day



## TUESDAY

Feb. 18

### Stuff-a-Plush

Location: UC 202  
Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



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

# TORCH CONFESSIONS

## Fangirling

Torch staff members write about slightly embarrassing aspects of their lives because hey, we all have those.



Marissa Russell  
Lifestyles Editor

Ever since I was in middle school I can remember reading books and being so into it, it became my life. I can't just like something in a normal way, I obsess over it until I find something new.

A good example would be when "The Hunger Games" came out. I made my mom buy the books as soon as they were printed because I needed to know what was going to happen. I can still remember starting "Mockingjay" in the middle of the day and reading it until 2 a.m. and bawling my eyes out until I had to go to school the next day. I was com-

pletely infatuated with the series and dreamed of being "the Girl on Fire."

Another example is my first boy band crush. I can remember watching One Direction on "X-Factor" and just falling in love. I had their posters all over my room, I had every magazine they interviewed in, I even read all the fanfiction I could find. I was convinced I was going to marry those five boys. I knew every single thing about them.

I thought that as I got older I would get over my fangirling tendencies, but it seems like I will be forever in a loop of day dreaming of attending different universes.

## Random Fact #3

Your weekly dose of trivia

The legend of St. Valentine combines the stories of the real Saint Valentine and Bishop Valentine.

Saint Valentine lived around 300 A.D in Rome and was beheaded on Feb. 14. Bishop Valentine was an Italian who lived around 200 A.D, and was killed for marrying couples in secret.

Modern legends often reports a St. Valentine who lived in Rome, married couples in secret, and was killed on Feb. 14.

Also, around this time, Romans would celebrate the feast of Lupercalia, a festival for fertility and health, on Feb. 15. When Christianity took over Europe, this moved to Feb. 14 to honor the fallen Valentines.

Sources: "The History of Valentine's Day" from [thoughtco.com](http://thoughtco.com)



LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK AT  
FERRIS STATE TORCH



# Overheard at Ferris

"Can you imagine surviving the worst wildfires and flooding in history, only to be killed by a terminal-velocity carrot?"

-The Quad

# Get cultured

Learn more about  
Hispanic life from HSO

Wil Roy  
Torch Reporter

The Hispanic Student Organization (HSO) at Ferris brings a foreign insight for students who are unaware of Hispanic cultures.

HSO has been at Ferris for about six years. The organization started off with a few students who wanted to bring more awareness for the Latino culture to Ferris. HSO has now grown to have more than 30 members who actively participate in events.



Sandra Ramirez Espinoza

Ferris graphic design senior Sandra Ramirez Espinoza is the social media chair for HSO and has been in the organization all four years she has been at Ferris, serving on the executive board in various positions three out of the four years. In this position Ramirez Espinoza uses the skills she learned in her major to design and create various flyers for the organization.

"This organization is a way to have a community and a way to learn about other cultures," Ramirez Espinoza said.

A common mistake many think when they hear Hispanic Student Organization is that they have to be Hispanic or Latino to join, but HSO welcomes everyone, and has multiple members without Hispanic or Latino background.



Photo by: Hispanic Student RSO

Members of the Hispanic Student Organization gather for a group picture in Lansing, MI for Statewide Latino graduation.



Hillary Sanchez

Ferris general business freshman Hillary Sanchez serves as the secretary for HSO.

"This organization spreads cultural awareness," Sanchez said. "There is not a big Hispanic population here at Ferris so this organization is good because it tells people that we are here and that we are growing."

HSO has hosted various events in the past to help teach the student body about the Latino culture. Last semester, HSO threw an Afro-Latin dance night to help showcase the various genres of Latin music and their importance to Latin cultures. They also held a Lotteria night where students could

come and play Mexican bingo to try and win prizes.

A popular event the organization commonly held in the past was a Quinceañera, which is the celebration of a girl's 15th birthday showcasing her transition into womanhood. HSO is currently planning on bringing the Quinceañera back to teach the student body what happens at a Quinceañera and why it's so important to the Latino community. They are looking to hold the event sometime in April.

HSO meets 7:30 p.m every Monday in IRC 131, Center for Latin@ Studies. If you are interested in joining this organization, feel free to attend a meeting or contact the president, Veronica Mascorro through email at mascorv@ferris.edu

# Frigid Fashion

Tips from college students on how to look classy in cold weather

Mackenzie Kidder  
Interim Reporter

As the cold weather will remain for a few more months, students continue to look for ways to stay warm while still being fashionable.

Thankfully, bad hair days can be concealed with a knit beanie, serving a dual purpose to hide unruly hair fashionably and keep the head warm in the cold weather. Layering clothing is a way to keep the body warm, while also helping to disguise less desirable parts of it.



Gavin Keon

Ferris mechanical engineering technology sophomore Gavin Keon does his best to look good while staying warm during these dreary winter months. He suggests that students should wear different layers because they look good and

keep you warm. He puts on a sweatshirt, a flannel and a jacket, and calls it good.

To save money, Keon primarily shops at Goodwill and Meijer for clothes. He tries to thrift, look for deals and browse the clearance racks at stores so his wallet is not hurting so bad.

Keon loves the brand Levi's for pants because he believes them to be the most comfortable. When thrifting for tops, however, he focuses primarily on texture, looking for shirts with the softest feeling rather than their brand — the softer, the better.

For shoes, he prefers stylish boots, so he can look good walking to class or running errands in the bitter winter cold.

Ferris journalism and technical communication sophomore Alyssa Hubbard is another student on campus that has found ways to dress fashionably despite the colder temperatures this time of year.

She does her best to find the cutest sweaters to wear, and this helps her fight the winter blues.

Hubbard shared how she practically "lives" at Forever 21 when it comes to shopping for cute clothing.

The store frequently has sales going on in addition to their already low prices, which is a big appeal, especially to college students. In addition to Forever 21, Hubbard likes to browse the racks at Target and thrifted clothes at Goodwill to find cute and fashionable clothing to wear in the wintertime.



Alyssa Hubbard



## SPORTS

“As a team we just have to be locked in ready to go and prepared for anything that’s ahead of us.”  
-D’angelo Hughes - See page 13 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

# Life support



Photo by: FSU Photo Services

Ferris junior forward Marshall Moise battles for the puck. The Bulldogs are in a battle of their own, as they try to make a push for the final spot in the WCHA playoffs.

## *Bulldog hockey tries to make one final push into the conference tournament*

**Brendan Sanders**  
Torch Reporter

It's now or never for the Bulldogs this season.

Despite sitting at a 7-20-2 record on the season, the Bulldogs sit ninth in the WCHA conference standings, only three points behind the University of Alaska Anchorage for the eighth spot in the standings. Why is that important? Because the WCHA conference tournament takes only the top eight teams in the conference.



Dominic Lutz

Safe to say, the pressure is on if the Bulldogs want to make some noise in the postseason. One mistake could force them to miss the action for the second season in a row.

With this past weekend a bye week for the Bulldogs to catch their breath, there wasn't a hint of panic for the team. Senior forward Dominic Lutz described the team's feeling heading into the final stretch of the season.

"I feel like everyone's feeling pretty

good at the moment. While we're not in the best position we could be in, it's certainly not the worst. We feel like we've been playing pretty well and believe we can make the playoffs down the stretch," Lutz said.

This was reiterated by junior forward Coale Norris.



Coale Norris

"I think the past few weekends we've been playing really good hockey," Norris said. "We've come out the past three weekends and have pretty much shown we can play with anyone. While the games haven't gone our way as much, we're feeling pretty good about where we're at."

The schedule ahead of them is tough, but not impossible. Currently, all three of the final opponents for the Bulldogs this season sit outside the top 25. With four games at home and the other two at Bowling Green, the schedule lacks the grueling intensity that has plagued the team this season.

Alaska Anchorage has two non-conference games before closing out the season against ranked Bemidji State and University of Alaska (Fairbanks).

If the Bulldogs make the playoffs, they will be playing defending conference champions Minnesota State, the number three ranked team in the country, and a team that swept the Bulldogs earlier in the season 5-0 and 5-1. Lutz was confident the team could pull a surprise against the Mavericks.

"I feel like once you get into the playoffs anything can happen, I feel like we've always played pretty well at Minnesota State, I don't know if it's the atmosphere there or what. Either way, once you get into the playoffs it's survive and advance," Lutz said.

If the Bulldogs want to make an attempt toward, and during, the playoffs, both their offensive goal output and their defensive outputs need to improve, as the Bulldogs rank eighth in the conference in both goals for and goals against.

The Bulldogs will make their run to the playoffs this weekend against the Huskies of Michigan Tech. The Bulldogs competed at Michigan Tech three weeks ago and split the weekend 1-1. This duo of games will be at home in Ewigleben Ice Arena at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14 and 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

## WEEKEND SCORECARD

### Men's Tennis

Feb. 8 - Ferris 7  
Rose-Hulman 0

### Women's Basketball

Feb. 6 - Ferris 68  
Saginaw Valley 82  
Feb. 8 - Ferris 67  
Northwood 66

### Men's Basketball

Feb. 6 - Ferris 84  
Saginaw Valley 65  
Feb. 8 - Ferris 81  
Northwood 87



## THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

### Thursday, Feb. 13:

- Men's Basketball vs. Michigan Tech. at 5:30 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Michigan Tech. at 7:30 p.m.

### Friday, Feb. 14:

- Track & Field at GVSU Big Meet Friday
- Hockey vs. Michigan Tech. at 7:07 p.m.

### Saturday, Feb. 15:

- Track & Field at GVSU Big Meet Saturday
- Softball at Bellarmine (Ky.) at 11 a.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. Northern Michigan at 1 p.m.
- Women's Tennis vs. Northern Iowa at Kalamazoo, Mich. at 2 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Northern Michigan at 3 p.m.
- Softball vs. Findlay at Louisville, Ky. at 3 p.m.
- Hockey vs. Michigan Tech at 6:07 p.m.

### Sunday, Feb. 16:

- Softball vs. Findlay at Louisville, Ky. at 11 a.m.
- Softball at Bellarmine (Ky.) at 1 p.m.

# New Recruits

*Twin offensive linemen headline massive 38 player class for Ferris football*

**Brendan Sanders**  
Torch Reporter

The Ferris football family grew dramatically last Wednesday, Feb. 5, when the team welcomed its latest class of 38 signees.

As 2 p.m. rolled around on Wednesday, Ferris head coach Tony Annese finally unveiled the massive recruiting class of 38 signees. Among this class, Ferris revealed a third set of twins set to join the program.

Offensive linemen Bob and Tim Anderson from Rochester joined sophomore defensive backs Amarr and Amere Blake, and freshman offensive linemen James and John Fletcher, as the third set of twins to join the Bulldog football team.



Tony Annese

"I think it's cool when twins want to come to the same school," Annese said. "You ask one of them if they are going to go together, and one says yes while the other says that it doesn't matter to him. We now have two sets of twins that are o-linemen with the other set being defensive backs. With three sets of twins being in the same position groups together so their best friends and that's cool to see."

The Anderson brothers were just two of the 19 offensive players signed to the class that include a promising trio of quarterbacks. Caden Boersma of Muskegon Mona Shores, Micheal Martin-El of Edison Highschool in Detroit and Jaylin Willis from Southridge High School in Miami, Fla., all headlined the position group that Annese believed to be one of the stronger parts of the class. The class also brought in two designated athletes that played quarterback in high school.

Football recruiting | see page 13

# Wounded dawgs



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris freshman guard Mallory McCartney dribbles down the court. The Bulldogs have been fighting injuries late in the season, forcing younger players to step up.

## Women's basketball down two starters

**Brody Keiser**  
Torch Reporter

Injuries can impact a successful team, and the Ferris women's basketball team learned that this weekend.

Ferris senior guard Renee Sturm watched her team from the sidelines since injuring her lower leg Saturday, Jan. 25, against Purdue Northwest University. She was joined on the bench by Ferris freshman forward Chloe Idoni, who injured her ankle in practice Wednesday, Feb. 5.



Samantha Krauss

Sturm averages 25.6 minutes per game and offers a strong defensive presence and good rebounding ability to the Bulldog backcourt. Ferris junior guard Samantha Krauss started in Sturm's place.

"We're definitely missing a big spark," Krauss said of Sturm. "We count on her for rebounds and defensive effort and pressuring the ball, so we're really missing that. She's a good leader — our senior starter — so we're really feeling it right now."

Idoni, who contributes 8.9 points and 4.8 rebound per contest, was replaced in the starting lineup by Ferris senior forward Lilly George.

The Bulldogs dropped their game Thursday, Feb. 6, to Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) 82-68. Despite missing two starters, Idoni believed her team could move past the tough loss by focusing on themselves.

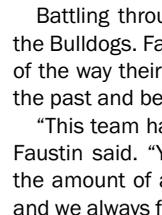
"We'll have to scope out the competition, but really it all just comes down to what we do and how we do it



Chloe Idoni

and how we execute it and focusing on ourselves," Idoni said.

Ferris women's basketball head coach Kendra Faustin liked the production she received from Krauss and George, both of whom have plenty of game experience. Faustin also liked the effort Ferris sophomore forward Zoe Anderson gave, who finished with six points and six rebounds against SVSU.



Kendra Faustin

Battling through injuries is not something new for the Bulldogs. Faustin, Krauss and Idoni all were proud of the way their team has fought through adversity in the past and believed they can do it again.

"This team has battled so much adversity all year," Faustin said. "You literally could write a book about the amount of adversity from the summer until now, and we always find a way to figure it out. Our mentality is, 'let's put the pieces together and let's tweak a couple things and let's get better every day.'"

The Bulldogs secured a big victory Saturday, Feb. 8, against Northwood University 67-66 without their two starters in the lineup.

Fortunately for Ferris, neither Sturm nor Idoni is expected to be out the entire season. It is very much a wait-and-see approach for both players. Regardless, the Bulldogs will certainly welcome both players back as soon as possible.

Their next chance to suit up comes Thursday, Feb. 13, when Michigan Tech comes to Big Rapids.

# High hopes

## Ferris softball looks to start their season off right

**Greg Williams**  
Torch Reporter

This upcoming weekend the Ferris softball team opens play in Louisville, Ky., knocking out a couple double headers back-to-back.

They square off between two regional foes that are known to be competitive. The first matchup is against the home team Bellarmine Knights.

Last year Bellarmine University had an overall record of 22-27. The Bulldogs split their two meetings last year losing the first game then taking care of the Knights a few weeks later 8-3. This is a team the Bulldogs are familiar with and enjoy playing against.

“We have come across Bellarmine in the three years we’ve been here quite a bit. They’re a GLVC team they are in the region. They have not been ranked consistently but they are always very strong. So, it is a good thing for us to start out with a team that is going to be really competitive. We actually play them twice and then the next weekend play them once at our Midwest crossover. It is a great test for us coming out and it should be a very competitive ball game both times,” Head Coach Kristin Janes said.



Kristin Janes

The second team of the double header is the University of Findlay Oilers. The Bulldogs did not see them in play last year, however, the Oilers posted a solid 25-22 overall record. They had a rough start last year and then continued to get better as the year went on.

Early on in the year the Bulldogs will look to their returners who have been through the battles of this region.

“In any sport, anytime you start out, it’s your returners with the experience that you are going to lean on. Our infield will be pretty darn young so Kodi Ramirez at that shortstop position is a two-year starter in the infield so we will be looking to her to really keep that infield moving smoothly,” Janes said.



Connor Proctor

“Paige Kortz and Kylie Winkles are both returners in the outfield, so same thing. All three of their bats have been big for us in past years. We have a transfer behind the plate, Ali Magiera, she is a Division I and Junior College transfer so that experience will be huge.”

They also have a strong returning core at the mound that will see a lot of time this upcoming weekend. They will lean on starters and relievers such as Abby Highway, Kaitlyn Nugent and Connor Proctor.

Proctor is ready to work outside of her comfort zone.

“I am going to play a lot of roles. I am going to do whatever they need, have fun and do whatever I am asked,” Proctor said.

The players are excited and ready to see some new pitchers and batters to compete against. They are also ready to leave the Multi-Purpose room and for some real grass and dirt. This might also present a challenge for them.



Kaitlyn Orme

“I feel like it’s just going to take an adjustment for us to do that. But I feel like we will do it quickly because if we can field the ball off the rubber room, we can literally field off of everything,” sophomore first basemen Kaitlyn Orme said.

Stay tuned and keep track of the girls next weekend as they look to start the season off on the right foot.



## Top Dawg

Mallory McCartney

Photo by: FSU Photo Services

**Austin Arquette**  
Torch Reporter

With the Ferris women’s basketball team missing a few key components, it was Mallory McCartney who stepped up.

This past weekend, she helped her team add another win to their record. The freshman guard was doing a little bit of everything over this weekend’s action against Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) and Northwood University

In the game on Thursday, Feb. 6, McCartney posted 10 points with nine assists and grabbed seven rebounds to go along with two steals against SVSU.

McCartney’s performance didn’t result in a win, but that changed against Northwood.

In action on Saturday, Feb. 8, McCartney played 38 minutes against Northwood where she added 17 points. McCartney stayed busy on the court, grabbing six rebounds, eight assists, and one steal. She also shot well from the free throw line as she went 5-6.

On the season McCartney has started in all 23 games averaging 32.7 minutes per game. McCartney has been shooting 38.4% from the 3-point line, and has a 42.6% shooting percentage overall. McCartney has made 77.8% of her free throws this season.

With five games left before the GLIAC tournament quarterfinals on Tuesday, March 3, McCartney will look to continue her impressive season.



Photo by: FSU Photo Services

Sophomore pitcher Kaitlyn Nugent eyes home plate as she prepares for a batter. The Bulldogs kick off a new season this weekend.

**CAN'T COME TO A FERRIS SPORTING EVENT?**

**WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED**

Follow us on twitter @fsutorch for live updates on the game!

# One game at a time

## Playoffs are on the horizon for men's basketball

**Austin Arquette**  
Torch Reporter

As the season winds down, the Ferris men's basketball team looks to focus on one game at a time in the last seven games.

This season marked the sixth straight year that the Bulldogs compiled 20 or more wins as they are 22-5 after this weekend's action. With Ferris hosting five of their remaining seven games, the Bulldogs hope to improve upon a 14-2 home record.



Andy Bronkema

"We try to win every game whether neutral, home or on the road. You have a slight advantage when you're at home because you're used to it, you've got more of your fans here and they bring the energy that you need sometimes," Ferris men's basketball Head Coach Andy Bronkema said. "We have a little advantage being at home and it's better to have them at home than on the road, but in this league

if you don't play well you can still lose at home. It's not like such an advantage where it's impossible to lose. You still have to play well and stay focused, but it's nice to have majority of them at home."

Over the length of the season Bronkema has preached that winning the home games and splitting on the road is the general philosophy. Junior wing Dorian Aluyi said that, to him, the team's word for the rest of the season is "compete." Aluyi believes they need to finish strong and keep competing if they want to have success.



Dorian Aluyi

"Love the fans here," Aluyi said. "They give us a great environment and we like to put on a show for them and get the win, so it would mean a lot to host it, but even

if we don't, that's fine too we like to compete. Wherever we go we will compete. I think it will be good to play at home right before playoffs start, get us in a groove and hopefully we host it."

The Bulldogs have high potential to win at minimum six of

the remaining seven as they have beaten each team previously except Michigan Tech. However, Michigan Tech has to invade Bulldog territory this time and could be in for a surprise. The Bulldogs have lost a total of five games this season, but only two have been at home and three on the road.

"It would be a big stepping stone for us to finish out strong out on the road because most of our losses are on the road. Getting those wins on the road can give us more confidence and just have us more prepared for later on, on the season," senior point guard D'angelo Hughes said. "As a team we just have to be locked in ready to go and prepared for anything that's ahead of us."



D'angelo Hughes

The Ferris men's basketball team is 11-4 in the GLIAC. The Bulldogs are only two games behind rival Grand Valley State for the conference lead.



Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Ferris junior wing Walt Kelsner backs down a Northwood defender. With playoffs in sight, head coach Andy Bronkema is preaching that the team take their remaining games one at a time.

### Football recruiting

Continued from page 11

"I like the two quarterbacks we have, for sure, and the other three quarterbacks we have labeled as athletes; we'll see how they are as well." Annese said.

Michigan was the focus for Ferris in much of its recruiting efforts, bringing in 29 recruits from across the state. Beyond that, recruiting efforts looked at Florida. Six players from the sunshine state signed with the Bulldogs, including two running backs, a wide receiver, a slot receiver, a quarterback and a defensive back.

"I've always said this about Floridians: those kids are going to schools that win," Annese said. "They do it in high school where they don't have school districts so they can transfer whenever they like. We've had great luck with Florida kids. You look at the guys we have here on campus, and they've done very, very well."

Defensively, the Bulldogs signed 16 players to the team, bringing in five defensive linemen, five defensive backs and six linebackers.

With 38 players signed to the team, there will be much competition to see who will see the field first. There will be competition throughout the roster to see who Ferris' next star will be.

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

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

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

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

# OPINIONS

“If we all can just come together and stop judging people based off of made-up social constructs, then everyone will be better off for it.”  
- Noah Poser - See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

The Ferris State Torch is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by The Pioneer Group.

OUR LOCATION  
Alumni Building 013  
410 Oak Street  
Ferris State University  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
fsutorch.com/letter-to-the-editor/

The Ferris State Torch welcomes comments on topics of interest to the general readership. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and The Torch reserves the right to edit for length. Letters will not be edited for grammar, punctuation or spelling. The Torch will not print letters deemed to be libelous or obscene. All letters must be signed by their authors and include his or her phone number.

Unsigned editorials appearing on this page are the opinion of The Torch and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the university's administration, faculty or staff. Signed columns represent the opinion of the writer. Inquiries regarding editorial content should be directed to the Editor in Chief at (231) 591-5978.

To advertise with the Torch, contact Bray Benner at the Pioneer Group: (231) 592-8391. bbenner@pioneergroup.com

Student media retain the same rights, responsibilities, privileges and protections afforded by the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution and under applicable state laws.

The Torch and fsutorch.com, the student newspaper and its accompanying online version focused on Ferris State University, are public forums for student expression. Student editors have the authority and responsibility to make all content decisions without censorship or advanced approval for both the print and online editions of the student newspapers.

## - TORCH STAFF -

<b>Editor in Chief</b> Noah Poser (231) 591-5978	<b>Visual Content</b> Samantha Cavotta Erin Dusa Will Holden Nicholas Moore Hunter Pariseau
<b>Production Manager</b> Abigail Maskill	<b>Videographer</b> William Byrd
<b>Production Assistant</b> William Byrd	<b>Reporters</b> Austin Arquette Brody Keiser Veronica Mascorro Will Roy Brendan Sanders Grant Siddall Greg Williams
<b>News Editor</b> Trenton Carlson	<b>Interim Reporters</b> Fatima Galvez Mackenzie Kidder Trevor Kowal Hannah McKeen Kendall Rooks
<b>Lifestyles Editor</b> Marissa Russell	<b>Managing Copy Editor</b> Jonny Parshall
<b>Sports Editor</b> Brendan Samuels	<b>Copy Editors</b> Kaylin Johnson
<b>Opinions Editor</b> Jonny Parshall	<b>Distributor</b> Grant Siddall
<b>Multimedia Editor</b> William Byrd	<b>Adviser</b> Garrett Stack (231) 591 - 5869
<b>Web Supervisor</b> Veronica Mascorro	
<b>Office Manager</b> Marissa Russell	
<b>Podcast Manager</b> Garrett Johnson Trevor Kowal	
<b>Cartoonist</b> Jonny Parshall	

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

Patrick Mahomes is an NFL superstar who just led his team to a Super Bowl.

His brother, Jackson Mahomes, is a superstar in his own right. However, unlike his brother, who excels on the gridiron, he makes his name on a different platform, Tik Tok.

From an outsider's perspective, I look at these brothers and I'm in awe of how one family can hold such talent.

Unfortunately, this is not the way many others look at it. This is evidenced by some very hateful comments that can be seen on his posts across Tik Tok, Instagram, and Twitter.

A lot of this has to do with jealousy, but there is also another prevalent factor in play.

Fragile Masculinity.

Fragile masculinity refers to anxiety felt by men who believe they are falling short of cultural

standards of manhood. This feeling can ultimately motivate people to compensate with attitudes and behaviors meant to restore the threatened status of 'real' manhood.

One behavior that fits this criteria is making fun of guys who don't display all the "necessary" traits that a guy "should."

The fact that Jackson's brother plays football, a sport many would describe as a "manly" sport is just the icing on the cake for the vultures that prey in the comments.

The first problem at the most basic level with this issue is the fact that Jackson was a standout athlete in high school, where he played basketball, which makes the entire point moot.

The second and bigger part of the problem with all this hate, is the fact this happens everywhere you look and it occurs all the time.

Playing football in high school

## Fragile Masculinity

especially, you have no idea how often I'd hear someone utter the words "no homo" when doing something that could potentially be seen as a feminine action. I have maybe heard this phrase thousands of times in my life and the more I go through life, the more repulsed I get when I hear it.

This portrays the fact that being homosexual is a problem, if not for any other reason than the fact that it is "feminine." What makes it even worse, are the fact that the constructs of femininity and masculinity are completely made up social constructs that only exist because we as a society push them onto people.

If people just realized that if a guy is sexually or romantically attracted to another guy, then that means they are either homosexual or bisexual. If they're not, they aren't either of those regardless of whether they act "feminine"

or not. This is how you get numerous celebrities and other less famous guys, such as myself in the past, feeling the pressure to get a girlfriend because they want to deflect rumors about them based on their supposed "lack of masculinity."

As you can see, this is a pretty large problem that affects a large number of people. And what makes it even worse is the fact that this is such an easy problem to solve.

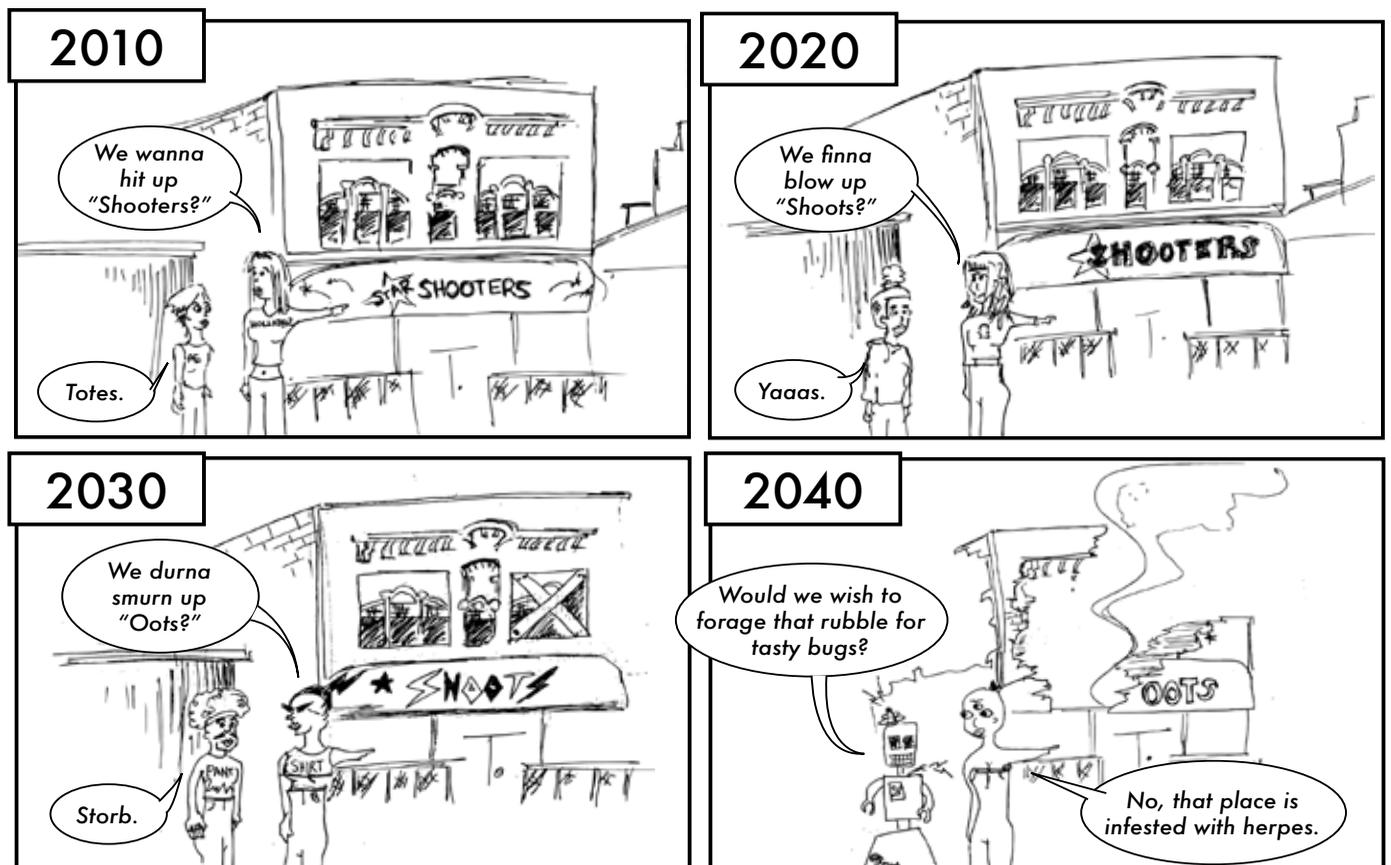
If we all can just come together and stop judging people based off of made-up social constructs, then everyone will be better off for it.

Not only will we be better off, but we can finally put an end to the toxic waste that is fragile masculinity.

## 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: posern@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!



Cartoon by: Jonny Parshall | Cartoonist

# DIVIDED

# OPINIONS

## Stay In

Should you stay in or go out on Valentines Day?

## Go Out

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate love, especially with a significant other. Many people think Valentine's Day is an overrated holiday, and there's a little truth to that notion. There's the expectation of buying flowers, going out to a nice dinner, giving gifts, posting your love story on social media ... it's kind of a hassle when you try to keep up with societal expectations for Valentine's Day. It's 2020 — I suggest breaking cultural norms and spending some time inside this year.

Many of my friends and I agree that some of the best dates we've had were the simple ones, like eating ice cream and playing games together or spending the day baking desserts. I prefer staying in over traditional dinner and movie dates because of the intimacy of it. It's just you and your significant other, no waitstaff checking in or people who'll give you dirty looks for talking during a movie.

Staying in relieves some of the stress for Valentine's Day. Rather than trying to figure out a place to eat and potentially needing a reservation, make dinner together — even if it's just a frozen pizza. Odds are, it'll be cheaper than a meal for two at a decent restaurant and you can spend quality time with your significant other; that's difficult to do in a loud



Abigail Maskill  
Production Manager

restaurant with scores of other people around. Also, you never know how the weather will be in Michigan. Planning a night in will eliminate the need for a backup plan if the roads get bad.

Spending the evening in allows for more opportunities to bond with your S.O. You could do a puzzle, bake cookies, watch a movie, start binging a T.V. show, build a blanket fort or just cuddle and talk for hours. There are other opportunities to go out with your significant other, but on a day meant for love, you really should slow down and focus on each other. Big Rapids doesn't have a whole lot to offer for nightlife, so you probably wouldn't be missing much anyway.

It's the small things about love that make it meaningful, and the quietest moments are when "I love you"s speak the loudest. So, skip the outing and formality and spend a little time inside this year. Slow down and spend time with the ones you love and make the most out of the simple moments.

Well it's that time of year again, and for single people, Valentine's Day could be just another day or the worst day of the year.

When you are single there are a couple different stages you could be living through. You could be happy that you are single, and that you do not have to abide by society's rules of spoiling your significant other. In that case a perfect way to spend the holiday is to go out and have a good time with your other single friends. Everyone who is out having a fun time at the bar is single as well. This is a great opportunity to have fun with your friends and meet new people.

If you are single but are interested in someone or have a crush on someone, Valentine's day could be a great opportunity for a romantic first date. It is a great way to be spontaneous and really impress your crush. This is a risky play because there can be two reactions to the date. The first reaction is that they are so happy and excited that you put yourself out there and took the first shot, they agree to the date. The second reaction is you are a crazy person for pro-



Greg Williams  
Torch Reporter

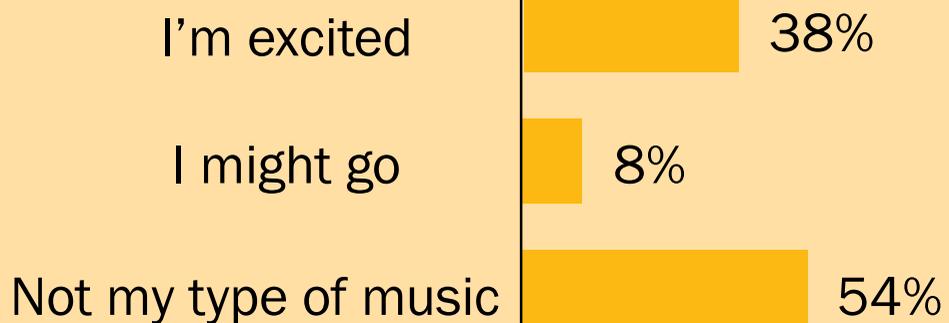
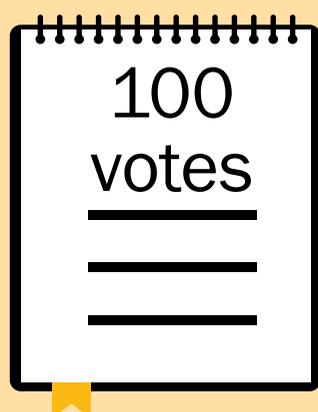
posing a first date on the most romantic night of the year. In that case, it's not a big deal because you are right where you started, single and alone.

Last, if you are a single individual and you are sad, lonely and depressed, then there is only one thing left to do ... join those single friends of yours that are happy to be single and go have the time of your life! Get off the couch and put that ice cream back in the freezer. Get ready, put your best outfit on and go out and have fun. For a night you can forget about your single life and go meet new people sharing similar feelings to you.

You never know, by going out, you may find the person you have been searching for the whole time. However, if you stay on the couch watching that rom-com and feeling bad for yourself, you will only feel worse than you did to start the day.

# TORCH POLL RESULTS

Are you excited that Hoodie Allen is coming to Ferris?



Stay updated on campus news by liking us on Facebook or following us on Twitter or Instagram

# Come Live #TheSuiteLife

**UNIVERSITY  
PARKESUITES**  
*"Luxury apartments for students"*

19500 14 Mile Rd.  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
(231) 796-7495  
[www.universityparkesuites.com](http://www.universityparkesuites.com)

**M-F: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**



## LIVE FOR LESS AT UPS!



**NOW LEASING for 20/21 SCHOOL YEAR!**

**\$99**

**Security  
Deposit**

**RENT \$370.00/MONTH**

*Call today for details on this  
GREAT OFFER!*

- Private bathroom in each suite
- Microwave and mini-fridge in every bedroom
- Patio or balcony on every suite
- Individual leases w/roommate match
- Full kitchen/dishwasher
- In-unit washer and dryer
- Free Wi-Fi
- Pet Friendly
- Over 1500 sq. ft. per apartment
- Clubhouse with pool, gym and tanning
- Security
- Prompt maintenance

**APPLY ONLINE: [WWW.UNIVERSITYPARKESUITES.COM](http://WWW.UNIVERSITYPARKESUITES.COM)**



## COME TOUR TODAY!