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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

TIME FOR A BREAK

See how Ferris students are planning to relax and take their minds off of school while they travel for spring break.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 6

ONE LESS LONELY 'DAWG

College can be a stressful time, and that stress only multiplies as the year winds down, but life still tries to get in the way. Read on how to get over this late-year loneliness.

OPINIONS | PAGE 15

Ferris encourages diversity in RSOs



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

Dr. David Pilgrim speaks at the 2020 Diversity and Inclusion Summit

Ferris puts on a campuswide Diversity and Inclusion Summit

Trevor Kowal
Interim Reporter

CLACS hosted an event to show the importance of diversity and inclusion through student organizations.

The event was led by multiple departments on campus including the Academic Advising office, LGBTQ+ Center, Center for Latin Studies and the Office of Multicultural Student Services.



Ben Keller

"Diversity allows people who may have grown up differently to spread their different knowledge/experiences," Ben Keller, a sophomore in the Product Design Engineering program said. "It creates learning opportunities that may have never been there without diversity."

The summit was put on to show that acceptance has no boundaries. Students were given a look at why acceptance is important throughout life.

Students who attended the event were treated to break-out sessions throughout the event as well as a panel of questions following the summit.

"Diversity and Inclusion in RSO's, classes, the work place, and just your everyday life is and will always continue to be important," Noelle Kraus, a student who works for the CLACS office and coordinated the summit said. "When you are open to diversity and inclusive to all you are working to foster a more creative and innovative team, overall leading to greater efficiency and success."

Diversity in everyday life is important and the event was focused on giving students unique information about the topic.

Students were able to get a look at the supportive resources Ferris has to offer as well as being able to make a change in not only their life, but others as well.

"At the heart of diversity and inclusion is understanding and respect of differences," Angela Roman, Director of the CLACS office said. "Every group, including student organizations, will have diverse membership therefore being mindful, participating in ongoing learning, and practicing work with a

diverse group of people is essential to group success."

Student organizations all around the Ferris campus are diverse and working on how to build up their organization to make a change.

"I do believe Ferris has diversity throughout RSO's. In one of my RSO's, Fitdawgs, we have a wide variety of different backgrounds and cultures of people which can help bring a lot to the table," Kenneth Smith, a student in the Pre-Physical Therapy program and member of Fitdawgs RSO said.

Ferris is taking steps to better their faculty, staff and students through informational events. The CLACS office of Ferris intends to make the Diversity and Inclusion Summit an annual event on campus.

Students who participated in the Diversity and Inclusion Summit were treated to a raffle of several different prizes at the end of the event.

For more information about the event, visit the CLACS office located in the University Center or contact the Diversity and Inclusion office located in the Timme Center.

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NEWS

"If I go too long without writing, I feel like a huge part of my life is missing,"
- Deirdre Fagan - See below for story

Trenton Carlson | News Editor | carlst24@ferris.edu

Learning across the globe

Ferris student gains new experiences in academia and culture abroad

Grant Siddall
Torch Reporter

It's 7 a.m. and Gerald Murphy is waking up for a breakfast of noodles before his 15-minute walk through mountains to teach his collegiate English class.

Murphy hasn't completed his bachelor's degree, in fact, he's not even pursuing a teaching degree, and yet, he's more than 6,500 miles from his Michigan home teaching English in South Korea.

It was a natural decision for Murphy, a senior at Ferris studying sociology. He was in South Korea last summer as part of Ferris' study abroad program. As compensation for teaching, Murphy was offered free airfare and lodging during his three-month stay. While in South Korea he spent a month teaching and two months attending classes.

The differences between the United States and South Korea are vast, but one change was especially interesting for Murphy.

More than 99% of South Korean citizens are of Korean descent, according to World Population Review, making Murphy one of few black persons in a country of more than 50 million people. He claims the attention he received made him feel "like a superstar."

"It was amazing," Murphy said. "You command so much attention, whether it was good or bad or just curiosity. It just felt good to have all eyes on you when you walk in the room."

Aside from the annoyance of people constantly wanting to touch his hair, Murphy said being black didn't have any

negative impact on his trip. Though he received a lot of attention, he didn't experience any discrimination.

"I was in the airport one day getting my hair braided and there was a huge crowd of Asian people staring at us, taking videos and pictures," Murphy said. "It was a bit uncomfortable because I was really tired ... but people would be walking by and take out their phones for pictures and videos and I was like 'oh my god, I feel like a celebrity.' I loved it. I love the attention, but after a while it did get irritating."

In some ways, the culture fit right in with Murphy's lifestyle. Murphy, who is gay and wears makeup, said that men wearing makeup is far more common in South Korea than it is in the United States.

"They're very conservative in South Korea but the social norms are very different," Murphy said. "You see men in makeup, and femininity is more common than [in the United States]. I didn't face any discrimination, and I was shocked by it, but it's very common to see guys holding hands and in makeup tutorials and hair commercials. It's very common and you see it everywhere. I think that was also a huge contributor to why I didn't face [discrimination]."

In addition to the near celebrity status he gained, Murphy said that he also met great friends who he keeps in touch with regularly, and after the coronavirus recedes he plans to move back to South Korea for at least a few years.

As for the educational aspect of the trip, Murphy said that adjusting to a more disciplined style of learning was an interesting transition.

"The Korean education system is more strict. They really

want you to understand the material and grasp the concepts and they want you to apply it a lot. When we were in Korean class [the teacher] would teach vocabulary and right after that we would apply it. Because we only studied for like a month, I would say we learned the alphabet in only two days," Murphy said.

While some students on the study abroad trip knew no Korean, Murphy says he had a fairly decent grasp of the language before arriving and that many Koreans knew enough English for him to communicate that way as well.

Murphy learned many valuable lessons throughout his Korean experience, by learning the Korean language and culture, and navigating a foreign land essentially on his own. He cites Ferris' study abroad program as the reason for such a great opportunity.

Murphy has advice for other students considering studying abroad.

"Have a clear destination of where you want to go and figure things out at least a year in advance," Murphy said. "I would also say work on having the confidence of traveling alone and learning how to navigate these different countries. Learn how to be alone and figure out things and put yourself in uncomfortable situations because you learn more about yourself."

He also recommends that interested students look into any available scholarships for students studying abroad, and he believes those scholarships helped him offset some of the costs.

A life in letters

Published Ferris professor shares her love and advice for writing

Hannah McKeen
Torch Reporter

Professor Deirdre Fagan is one of many published professors on campus, and her latest book expects to release this coming September.

Like some students on campus, Fagan first published in college newspapers — writing movie reviews and satirical pieces. Even with that, she didn't seriously call herself a writer until the 2010s. Realizing she missed writing and wanted to continue it after graduating, Fagan settled comfortably into the title.



Deirdre Fagan

"Writing is my happy place, and if I go too long without writing, I feel like a huge part of my life is missing," Fagan said. Professor Fagan's first book, "Critical Companion to Robert Frost," was the one that made her realize that she was a writer. She has written nearly sixty poems and many pieces in encyclopedias, journals and anthologies. She has published both fiction and nonfiction; "Critical Companion to Robert Frost" was a reference piece, and her second book was "Have Love," a collection of poetry. Her upcoming book is "The Grief Eater," a collection of short stories.

The stories in "The Grief Eater" concern grieving people and how their behaviors can change throughout the process. These stories were previously published individually in various journals, but this collection helps organize them in a way Fagan prefers. The stories are drawn from personal experience. The collection started when Fagan was mourning the loss of everyone in her immediate family at the age of 36. Fagan is looking forward to seeing the book out and in print.

"I am proud of every piece I publish but am particularly proud of the books I have authored," she said.

Fagan still remembers her first attempt at publishing an academic essay, recalling when she sat in her car outside the post office and cried. An article she later read recommended she send the piece out again the same day, which is a habit she now regularly obeys, after checking it again for improvements.

"Face rejection with renewed hope," Fagan said. "Get knocked down? Sit there a minute. Let it hurt. Then get back up."

This advice works for Fagan, and how much she publishes is testament to it.

Ferris offers both a creative writing certificate and minor, and Fagan encourages students who love to write — no matter the major — to believe in their work and always seek ways to be stronger writers.

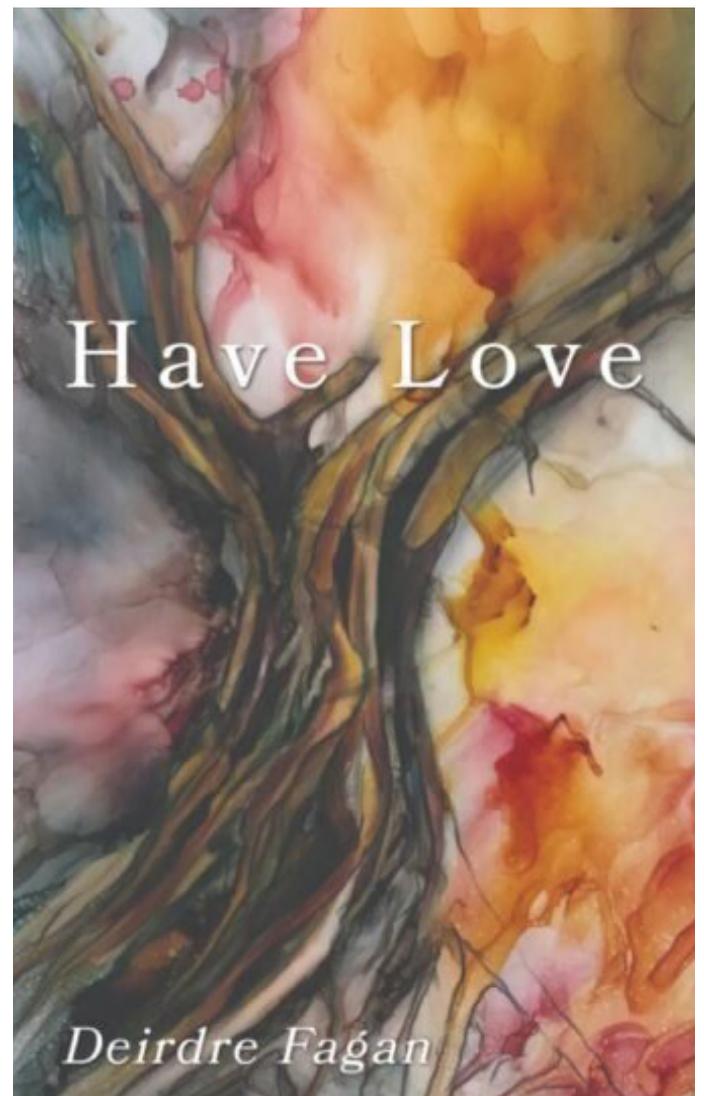


Photo courtesy of deirdrefagan.com

The cover of Fagan's most recent book, "Have Love." The art was created by Ferris art gallery director, Carrie Weiss.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Trenton Carlson
News Editor

Original article by Matina Stevis-Gridneff, March 2, 2020, The New York Times

China

China faces backlash from its citizens as it was discovered that officials downplayed the severity of the new coronavirus outbreak and allowed it to reach the epidemic it has become. Due to fear of negative public image, China is attempting to rebrand itself as the leading fighter of the coronavirus. Chinese officials have even gone as far to point blame at the United States and South Korea for not acting fast enough.

Original article by Javier C Hernandez, Feb. 28, 2020, The New York Times

Greece

A small boat holding 48 Turkish migrants headed for the Greek island of Lesbos capsized, killing one child at sea. This was the first reported death after Turkey changed its policy of stopping Turkish migrants attempting to cross into Europe. Greek government stated they will deport anyone seeking asylum for the next month and have deployed heavy military presence on its shared land and sea borders with Turkey.

Afghanistan

United States Defense Secretary Mark T Esper announced that the US had begun withdrawing troops from Afghanistan. This is the first step in what could be a full military withdraw from Afghanistan in the next 14 months. For the remaining time in the country U.S. troops will maintain seven bases across the country and plan to focus on counterterrorism operations against Al Qaeda and the Islamic State

Original article by Thomas Gibbons-Neff, March 2, 2020, The New York Times

Nigeria

An Italian contractor who flew to Nigeria from Milan became sub-Saharan Africa's first confirmed coronavirus victim on Friday. This strikes fear among government officials and citizens as an outbreak could cripple an already struggling health system. This poses a test to Nigeria's health system, as they have been preparing for the deadly virus for weeks. Original article by Ruth Maclean and Abdi Latif Dahir, Feb. 28, 2020, The New York Times

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Talk about petty

Trenton Carlson
News Editor

Talk about petty

Then why is your hair curly?

A female student allowed another student to use her curling iron in Brophy Hall. After some time, the student would not return the iron, so a larceny complaint was filed on Tuesday Feb. 25. The student who borrowed the iron claimed she was never in possession of the iron but bought the student a new one anyway.

Now that's a bad breakup

A female student was in the mix of ending a relationship with her boyfriend on Monday Feb. 24. The male non-student refused to return the female students' possessions and provided a fake name to police and left the scene. He was later found, and police discovered that he had multiple warrants in his name.

A female student was outside of her apartment on Cardinal Ct. when her roommates locked her out and refused to let her back into the dwelling. When police arrived on the scene, the door was unlocked and she was let back into her apartment.

Go smoke another one bro!

Officers responded to a reckless driving call to find a student had reportedly driven their car into another students' car. The non-driving student did not wish to press charges. It was soon discovered that the student driving was in possession of marijuana and was a minor. That student was assessed a minor in possession of marijuana as well as reckless driving.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Trenton Carlson
News Editor

St. Patrick's Day bake sale

On March 16, the Global Brigades RSO will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day bake sale. The RSO plans to do public health work in Honduras this may and plans on using the proceeds to fund their trip. For more information on the event or the Global Brigades RSO contact Katie Wendlowsky

Making Money Moves

CLACS is hosting an event titled Making Money Moves on Wednesday March 18. The event is intended to encourage students to make good financial decisions and save money. At the event, students will be given the opportunity to make 'hide away jars' and decorate them how they please. For more information on the event contact CLACS

Five Star Speaker: Devin J Seymour

Ferris is welcoming Devin J Seymour, who served in the Marine Corps in intelligence as a Five Star Speaker. The event will be on Thursday March 19, at 7 p.m. For more information on Five Star speakers or Seymour, contact CLACS.

Casino for a Cause

CLACS will be hosting a Friday's at Ferris event titled Casino for a Cause. The event will be held on Friday March 20, at 9 p.m. For more information on how to attend or get involved with the event, contact CLACS.

Torch Corrections

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Students and community members donate blood

Ferris Student Nurses Association and Student American Dental Hygiene Association host blood drive to help Big Rapids community

Hannah McKeen
Torch Reporter

There are several Versiti blood drives each year held in FLITE, most of which are organized by students within the College of Health Professions.

Donors were encouraged to check out Versiti’s website for more information on donating blood and how it helps the community. The most recent blood drive was heavily advertised around campus with signs and tables hosted by the Ferris Student Nurses Association and Student American Dental Hygiene Association. In order to ensure that the donations went smoothly, a sign-up system was enabled for some time before the event and it allowed the event’s organizer, Ferris nursing senior Kaylee Riffey, to see how many people were going to come to donate their blood to Versiti.



Kaylee Riffey

It is Riffey’s final semester at Ferris and while she cannot donate blood because of her health, she would love to organize an event like this one again, and for good reason. Her efforts brought in large numbers of people, to the point that they could no longer accept walk-ins.

“We had a goal of 37 appointments and we are up to 60 appointments now,” said Riffey.

In order to make volunteers and donors feel more comfortable, Riffey set up a table with bottled water, a must when donating blood, and small snacks to help restore energy on the way back to class. There were also three unique movies set to play for the drive’s duration: Miss Virginia, Fat: A Documentary, and Hunt for the Wilderpeople.

While the movies and treats were a plus, some people came simply because they wanted to help people, like Ferris pre-nursing freshman Mackenzie Dykstra, who has donated blood several times in the past and in her hometown of Greenville.



Amanda Eslinger

Ferris pre-optometry junior Amanda Eslinger, who has donated blood four times during her enrollment at Ferris, agreed, “I donate blood because it takes thirty minutes out of my day and I know the greater effect it will have on someone who needs it.”

Many of the people there to donate their blood also volunteer in other locations, Dykstra and Eslinger included, and some people that either could not or have not donated blood volunteered to help out with the organization of the drive, like Ferris nursing senior Taylor Bennett. Bennett helped out in her high school blood drives, which were also through Versiti, and she remarked on how high the attendance always seemed to be.

“I think people come to blood drives because it’s an easier way to help out your community,” Bennett said. “Everyone has someone in their lives who has had some kind of blood donation and they want to donate and give back.”



Taylor Bennett

There is sure to be another blood drive in the future semesters, and students are encouraged to attend them. It may be a difficult thing for people to do, but sometimes that may be the reason to attempt it, like Ferris nursing senior Holly Wood, who, as a freshman, donated blood for the first time because she wanted to branch out and try things that made her uncomfortable. All the way into her senior year she is still donating, which, hopefully, will give confidence to everyone on the fence.

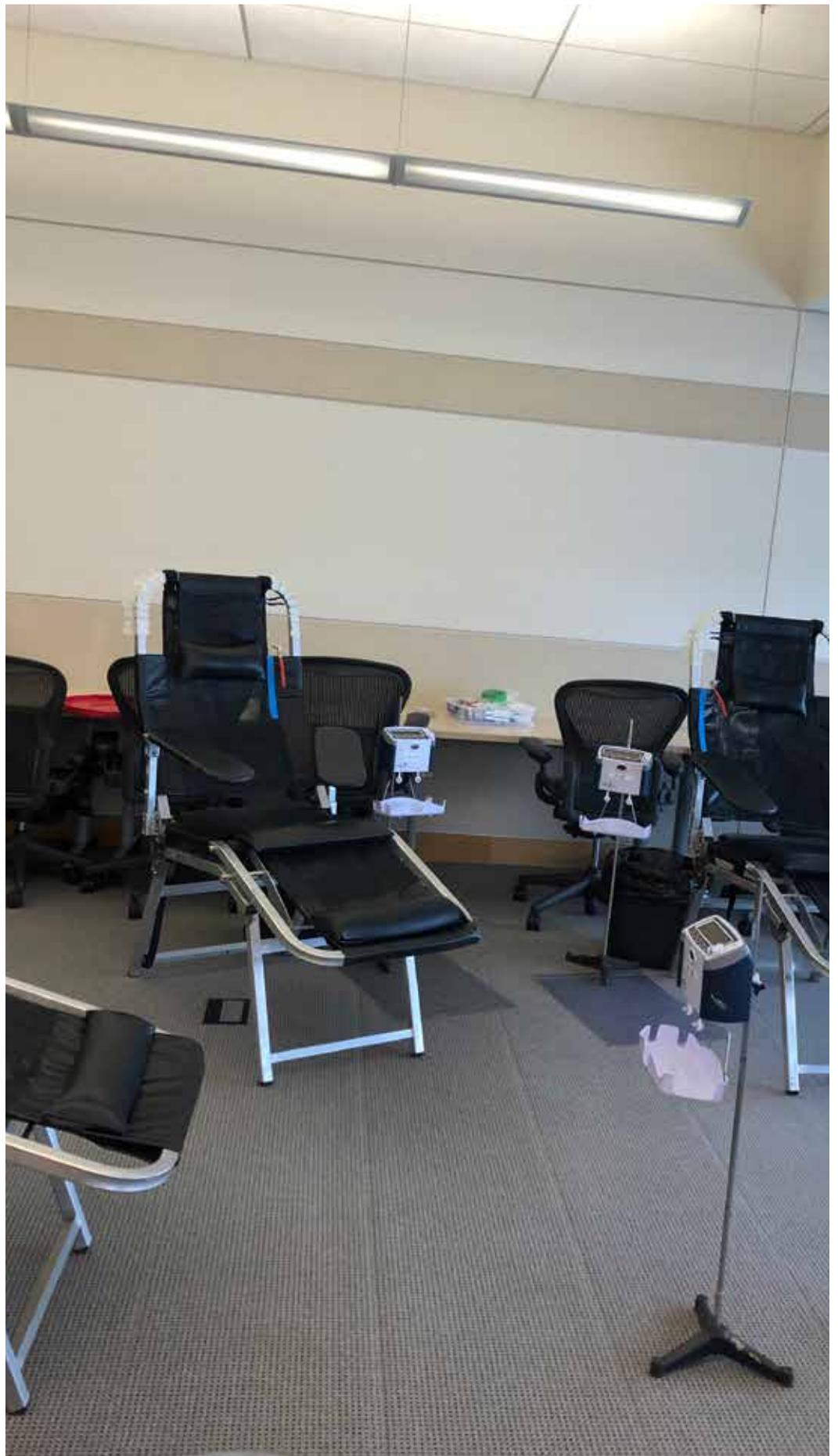


Photo by: Hannah McKeen | Torch Reporter

A conference room in FLITE is converted to a blood donation center for a day. The most recent blood drive was on Feb. 27.

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

Taking Summer Classes?

Summer is a great time to knock out some of your required classes while saving money with the Summer Housing Incentive. If you enroll in at least 6 credit hours for summer, or you are working full time on campus and have signed a housing contract for the next academic year, you can live in a double room on campus for free. You may upgrade to a private room for only \$500 for the summer semester.

If you enroll in at least six credit hours for summer and you have a complete 2019-2020 FAFSA on file, the Financial Aid office will review your eligibility and send you a financial aid award notification in mid-April. If you don’t have any federal aid eligibility remaining for summer, you would have the option of applying for alternative loan options to cover your expenses. **Enroll now!**

Preparing for the future

Learn about the resources available on campus

Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

Preparing to enter the real world can be something that many students might not feel ready for, but the CLACS office has resources that many are unaware of.

Coordinator of Career and Volunteer center, Michele Albright specializes in helping students learn the necessary skills for when they graduate.

"I work with students to explore career options, understand workforce trends, engage in activities to enhance employability skills, and to market themselves appropriately for internship and full-time career opportunities." Albright said.

Depending on the career field you enter brushing up on your professional skills might need to come earlier than others. Many students begin doing so by building up a LinkedIn account. A program that is similar to LinkedIn that is encouraged to use by Ferris is Handshake.

Handshake is a platform that allows you to explore job and internships from employers looking to hire Ferris students.

Another program offered by CLACS is Resume Worded, an AI system that analyzes your resume and helps to tailor it to a specific job. Typically, one would need to pay for this site but as a Ferris student, one can access this program for free.

Another program that one would typically pay for but is provided for free for students is Big Interview. Big Interview is a software program that provides online interview practice and lessons.

With Big Interview students are able to practice all the questions potential employers may ask them and practice their skill set. Students do so by recording themselves and being able to see how they perform in different situations. Big Interview as well has different

modules set in place for a variety of different industries, with mock interviews asking questions that are specific to those fields.

Programs are the only way for one to better their skills, the CLACS office as well has held various workshops in the fall and spring semesters to help teach students valuable skills that can help them, like learning to negotiate salaries for example.

The First Lady's Attic is as well a resource that some may be unaware of. Once per year students are able to keep one outfit. The First Lady's Attic is most popular during the Career and Internship fair.

Ferris hospitality sophomore Katie Bittner was unfamiliar with the services that CLACS provides but still receives information through her program.

"The hospitality program has an internship week every spring. They set up a LinkedIn workshop as well as a resume and portfolio workshop. The advisors invite company representatives to come speak to us and set up interviews to practice or get an internship. This event helps the students a lot with their professional development." Bittner said.

Although Bittner has never used the CLACS office as a resource she thinks it's really beneficial to students who do.

"I feel like professional development skills are an important thing to be taught because some college students might not know what they are doing after college or who they need to reach out to," Bittner said. Knowing how to brand yourself and what you want a company to have for you is important when looking for a job."

If students are interested in learning more about the services CLACS provides they can visit the CLACS office or send Michele Albright an email at MicheleAlbright@ferris.edu



Michele Albright



Katie Bittner



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LIFESTYLES

"I'm looking forward to taking some time off from my chemistry class. It's really mentally draining."
- Brendan White - See below for story

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

Time for a break

Ferris students talk spring break plans

Allison Dukavas
Interim Reporter

As the snow continues to fall and homework piles up, Ferris students may be struggling to find the stamina to keep going.

With spring break less than one week away, the thought of getting off campus and taking a vacation is motivating many students to keep pushing forward.

Ferris integrated studies senior Kaylee Meshigaud will be spending her spring break in the sunny city of Hollywood, Florida, to relieve some stress. Her long list of planned activities includes a trip to the casino and a Miami Heat game between afternoons at the pool and the beach.



Brendan White

Florida is definitely a popular relaxation destination this year. Brendan White, a sophomore pre-physical therapy major, says he plans to relax in Orlando with his family. He is thrilled to leave campus.

"I've definitely had a rough semester so far," White said. "I'm looking forward to taking some time off from my chemistry class. It's really mentally draining."

He hopes to make the best of his vacation by spending some time at Disney World and swimming with his cousins.

Spring break can be a great time to reconnect with family and friends. Courtney Klee, a product design engineering technology junior, says she will spend spring break in New Orleans visiting old



Kaylee Meshigaud

friends and enjoying the sunshine and many great cafes and restaurants around the city.

While exciting, these vacations can also be costly.

"I worked two jobs and saved up all fall semester to be able to afford to go to Florida," Meshigaud said. "We chose to drive and stay in an AirBnB to save money, but it's still a pretty expensive trip."

Klee also spent time saving before her trip. She says she has been saving for months to afford the plane and hotel fares.

Despite budget-friendly options, many students do not want to invest in a big trip, so visiting family at home is the go-to. That doesn't mean that students who go home have less fun than the traditional spring-breaker.



Sarah Kloski

Nursing junior Sarah Kloski will be heading home to Grand Ledge where she will celebrate Saint Patrick's Day a little early.

"My boyfriend's family puts on a whole parade around the block and afterwards everyone goes bar-hopping downtown. It's so much fun every year," Kloski said.

Wherever they end up, Ferris students will without a doubt make the most of their relaxing time away from class.



Graphic by: Abigail Maskill | Production Manager

Students bringing justice

A look into Ferris' criminal justice program

Kendall Rooks
Torch Reporter

The criminal justice program at Ferris is just one of the university's many high-ranking majors.

Ferris is ranked in the top 30 of criminal justice programs in the country and top five in Michigan. Criminal justice junior Stanley Williams chose Ferris specifically for the dignified ranks.

The criminal justice degree is split into three paths. Students can choose between law enforcement specialist, corrections or generalist.

Williams is a generalist in the program hoping to soon be a detective. He says he likes many things about the program.

"I really enjoy working with the kids, or juvenile delinquents, and learning more about crime history and where crimes occur using the COMPSTAT (an organizational and management system used by police departments)," Williams said. "I also think the program has very informative and helpful career fairs and speakers which can help me get connections for internships."

As a law enforcement specialist, students focus on administrative and management positions in county, state and federal agencies. With a corrections focus, there is an emphasis on criminal justice other than law enforcement, including probation, parole, community corrections, and more.



Stanley Williams

The generalist route focuses on all aspects of criminal justice as well as technical skills.

With a degree in criminal justice, students can expect to earn positions in city police, sheriff departments, adult probation and parole, juvenile services and casework, just to name a few. There are currently 525 Michigan-based employment opportunities for graduates looking to stay in the state.

Students in the program may also get a chance to attend field trips, including to nearby jails or prisons.

This past semester corrections students toured the Ionia Prison as well as the Newaygo County Jail.

Some students said it can be quite nerve-racking being inside the jails and prisons as a student. However, the tours give students the opportunity to have real world experience and a sense of the prison or jail environment so they can later talk about it in class.

The criminal justice major isn't for everyone though. The major involves a lot of report writing which can be tedious at times. Williams also mentioned that you must be very detail-oriented to make it in this field.

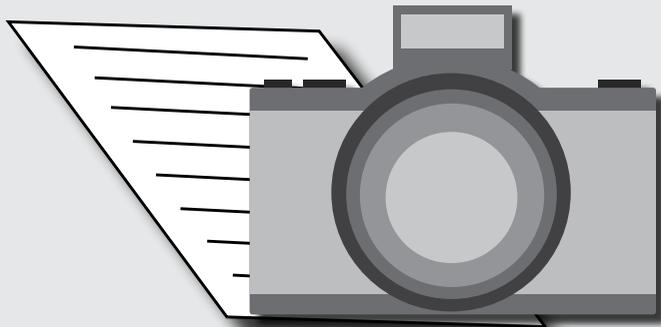


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Events calendar

WEDNESDAY

March 4



LGBTQ+ Resource Center Coffeehouse

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

Passion for the Past: The Nineteenth Amendment

Location: BUS 111
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

March 5

Test Anxiety Workshop

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

FSU Jazz Band Winter Concert

Location: UC 202 A and B
Time: 8 - 9 p.m.



FRIDAY

March 6



Study Abroad Information Workshop

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

Halls close for spring break

Time: 5 p.m.

Spring Break

March 6 - 15, 2020

Sit back, relax, and
enjoy the time off!

For more events, check out calendar.ferris.edu

Overheard at Ferris

“I don’t care,
awkward guys
deserve to be
ghosted”

-The Carillon Tower

March Horoscopes

Marissa Russell

Lifestyles Editor



Pisces: Feb. 19-March 20

This month will be a tough one. Some people will leave, but you will meet someone special halfway through the month.



Aries: March 21-April 19

You will butt heads with your professors because you believe they gave you the wrong grade. Don't let anger cloud your judgement.



Taurus: April 20-May 20

March is not your month. You will have some bad karma coming back to you.



Gemini: May 21-June 20

People will finally recognize all your hard work and give you the kudos you deserve.



Cancer: June 21-July 22

Because of how sensitive you are with the people you care about, you will shed some tears. But don't worry, your special someone will be there to wipe them away.



Leo: July 23-Aug. 22

A little bit of luck is coming to you in the most unexpected way.



Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Take a risk this month. Try that new coffee, text your crush, take a new route home. Do something out of your comfort zone.



Libra: Sept. 23-Oct. 22

Last month wasn't what you expected it to be, but this is the time to get everything you want.



Scorpio: Oct. 23-Nov. 21

Sit down and think about what you really want — not only for this week and month, but also your life.



Sagittarius: Nov. 22-Dec. 21

March weather can be bleak and unstable. Make a new playlist and jam your heart out to it to ease the last of the winter blues.



Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Start being more conscious of what you say around others.



Aquarius: Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You are the type of person everyone needs in their life, but there are toxic people in your life you need to cut out.



Torch Corrections

A magician never reveals his secrets

In last week's issue, the headshot for Taylor Furnari was accidentally replaced with a headshot of Christa Keys. We apologize for this mistake.



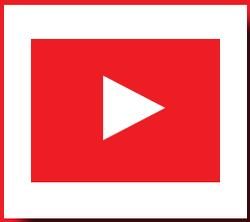
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Random Fact #6

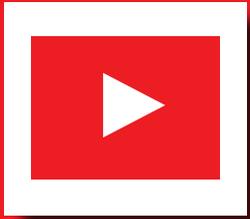
Your weekly dose of trivia

College students spend around \$1 billion each spring break traveling to and vacationing in Texas and Florida. Half a million students visit Panama City, Florida, while 150,000 flock to South Padre Island, Texas. The average student spends \$1,100 for a week, with nearly half of that going to transportation and lodging.

Source: "Spring Break Statistics and Facts" <http://www.infographicsshowcase.com/spring-break-just-the-facts/>



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SPORTS

“We’re happy that we’ve done as well as we have, but we’re still not satisfied.”
- Adrienne Anderson - See page 11 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu

Decades with Daniels

As season draws to a close, hockey head coach Bob Daniels reflects on winning in four different decades

Brendan Sanders
Torch Reporter

Coaching at the collegiate level is not for the faint of heart. Most positions have a short half-life.

That’s what makes winning for as long as hockey head coach Bob Daniels has even more impressive. A head coach who has been winning games since the 1990s is something that is very rare. With a win on January 25 against Michigan Tech, Coach Daniels joined nine active coaches who had achieved this feat, having coached in the 1990s, 2000s, 2010s, and now the 2020s.

Head Coach Bob Daniels laughed when he commented on the prospect of coaching in four different decades.



Bob Daniels

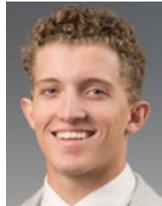
“It makes me feel old, and I don’t feel that old, I honestly don’t feel that I’ve worked here for 28 years,” Daniels said. It feels like I’ve worked here for maybe ten. So it’s kind of mind-boggling. I never would’ve thought of that. I have mixed emotions on our success because the last two seasons haven’t been as successful as I would’ve liked.”

Daniels is also 1 of 40 coaches in the history of collegiate hockey to have more than 400 wins in his career with 454 wins in his career. He is also 1 of 25 coaches to reach that milestone with one team in his career.

Over the years he has had a lot of help, something of which he has attributed much of his success to. Associate head coach Drew Famulak has coached alongside Daniels for 27 years. He is the main person who handles recruiting. Assistant coach Mark Kaufman has been with Ferris for 14 years and handles defensive players and penalty kills. Coordinator of athletic performance coach Dave Cencer has been with the program for 14 years and handles goal tending, strength and conditioning and video.

“Any one of the four of us is available to help any of the players if they have questions. So, it helps that we have been together so long as a staff so that our answers have been consistent between the four of us,” Daniels said.

The extra experience the coaches bring to the table has helped the players consistently improve. Sophomore forward Liam MacDougall spoke on how experience from the coaches has helped him develop as a player, specifically Daniels.



Liam MacDougall

“He’s seen a lot, so he knows when to let us be and when to tell us what to do. He’s been at Ferris for 25 plus years so there is no shortage of experience which helps us a lot,” MacDougall said. “Coach Famulak and coach Kaufman help out a lot because you can’t go to Bob all the time, they are just as experienced as he is. They are two good mediators who are easy to talk to and easy to get advice from.”

Junior forward Marshall Moise also was direct with how Coach Daniels, Famulak and Kaufman have helped the players grow as athletes.

“Anytime a coach comes up to you, you always listen, but with him you take the extra initiative to listen to him because he’s been around the game for so long,” Moise said. “Knowledge is high for coach Kaufman and coach Famulak. Anything they say you really take it to heart and try to analyze it into your game.”



Marshall Moise

This experience has brought success that a university like Ferris would be proud to showcase, with three regular season conference championships, a conference tournament championship, and a national championship appearance.

With the Bulldog’s pair of losses over the weekend, Ferris will be unable to make any more noise on the 2019-20 season. The Bulldogs finished with a record of 7-26-2, which is the least number of wins in program history.

The coaching staff have a tougher road toward prominence, but with the experience ranging four different decades, the coaching staff has the knowledge needed to possibly turn the team around in the coming seasons.



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

The Ferris hockey team huddles together. This past weekend, the Bulldogs ended their season after slipping from playoff contention.

WEEKEND SCORECARD

Hockey

Feb. 28 - Ferris 0
Lake Superior State 5
Feb. 29 - Ferris 2
Lake Superior State 5

Men’s Basketball

Feb. 27 - Ferris 84,
Lake Superior State 67

Women’s Basketball

Feb. 27- Ferris 71
Lake Superior State 65

Earned success



Photo by: Erin Dusa | Torch Photographer

The women's basketball team prepares to take the court. The Bulldogs finished the regular season with a 20-7 record and now look toward the GLIAC Tournament.

Women's basketball ends regular season on emotional note

Brody Keiser
Torch Reporter

The Ferris women's basketball team is more than just a basketball team; it's a family.

The Bulldogs finished their regular season on Thursday, Feb. 27, with a 71-65 victory over Lake Superior State University at Jim Wink Arena, and wound up with an impressive 20-7 season record. After the game concluded, each Bulldog cut the net in an emotional tribute to their successful season.



Kendra Faustin

Ferris women's basketball head coach Kendra Faustin was all smiles as she watched her team enjoy the success they earned this season. She stressed that the Bulldogs are like a family.

"I can't put into words how much this team means to me," Faustin said. "When we say we spend a lot of time together, I mean we spend 40 hours a week together. They're a part of my life."

Despite all the glory, things were not always easy for Ferris. They battled injuries all year and dealt with off-the-court issues early in the season. However, nothing

deterred the Bulldogs from achieving their goals.

"I think our unofficial motto is 'just figure it out,'" Faustin said. "When something happens off the court, we figure it out — we talk about it, we're proactive about it, we address conflict right away, we have hard conversations. With injuries, it's the next person up, somebody stepping up and doing something big every night."

The Bulldogs battled adversity all year and have come a long way from where they stood five years ago. Back-to-back 5-22 seasons was not where Faustin wanted to start her Bulldog career in 2015-2016, but her team continued to fight each year, and their hard work paid off.

"When we were losing a lot, we didn't allow losing to define us, but it is hard because they wanted to win," Faustin emotionally said as she reminisced and fought through tears. "What I'm probably most excited that our group sees is that if you want something, you keep going to go get it. You think that path is a straight line, or maybe it's a little hilly, but it's actually like canyons and mountains and there's no reason to not keep going."

The players established a bond that brought them close together this year. For junior guard Adrienne Anderson, this was very important.

"These are lifelong friends," Anderson said. "One of my

goals this year was to have deeper relationships, not just surface level, and we definitely accomplished that."

With the regular season finished, Ferris will now turn to the GLIAC tournament beginning Tuesday, March 3, against Wayne State University. The Bulldogs split the season series with the Warriors.

Anderson stressed that the success of her team to this point was not enough and that they have more to prove.

"We're still not satisfied," Anderson said. "From the coaching staff down to the players. We're happy that we've done as well as we have but we're still not satisfied."



Adrienne Anderson

Anderson and the Bulldogs are currently the sixth seed in the Midwest regional rankings. At the conclusion of the conference tournaments, the top eight teams from the region will earn an automatic bid in the NCAA Division II tournament.

Official selections into the tournament will be revealed on Sunday, March 8. Until then, Ferris will look to improve their seeding by playing well in the GLIAC tournament.

Track & Field

Feb. 29 - Women's Team 25
(7th place)
Men's Team 15
(7th place)

Men's Tennis

Feb. 29 - Ferris 1
Hillsdale 6

Women's Tennis

Feb. 29 - Ferris 3
Hillsdale 4





Top Dawg

Dorian Aluyi

Photo by: FSU Photo Services

Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

Top Dawg falls with the recent GLIAC champions in the Ferris men's basketball team.

Junior forward Dorian Aluyi has been tearing it up on the court, helping the Bulldogs to a 27-5 (16-4 in conference) record.

On Thursday, Feb. 27, the Bulldogs beat Lake Superior State to win the outright regular season GLIAC Championship. Aluyi is but one reason why the Bulldogs are seeing so much success this year.

Head Coach Andy Bronkema plays a 10-11 deep rotation. One of the team's starters, Aluyi plays a big chunk of minutes (23.6 minutes per game). Along with being on the floor for more than half the game, he is also the team's second leading scorer with 12.1

points per game. That mark trails only junior wing Walt Kelsler (17 points per game).

Not only is he one of the top scorers on the team, he is doing it quite efficiently. He is shooting 49.8 percent from the field, 31.3 percent from three-point field goals (39.5 percent in conference) and shoots 86 percent from the free throw line. Aluyi does the dirty work as well, averaging 6.2 rebounds a game, which is a team high.

Aluyi has been helping his team during their current five-game win streak, averaging 14.4 points per game and 4.4 rebounds. His last three games respectively he's had 14, 20, and 21 points to help the Bulldogs clinch the GLIAC and give them the first seed in the Conference Tournament.

Look for the junior forward to keep up his excellent play up while the Bulldogs enter tournament time when it matters most.



THIS WEEKEND'S SPORTS FOR FERRIS

Thursday, March 5:

- Men's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite
- Women's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite

Friday, March 6:

- Men's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite
- Women's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite

Saturday, March 7:

- Men's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite
- Women's Golf at Saddlebrook Spring Invite
- Women's Basketball at GLIAC Semifinals
- Men's Basketball at GLIAC Semifinals
- Softball vs. Hillsdale in Auburndale Fla. at 1:45 p.m.
- Softball vs. St. Cloud State in Auburndale, Fla. at 3:45 p.m.

An old conference reemerges

The CCHA rises from the grave with seven schools ready to compete

Brendan Sanders
Torch Reporter

The world got a little smaller for the Bulldogs as the news came out about the 2021 resurrection of the CCHA.

When it was announced that the CCHA conference was realigning, there was a silent cheer for all of those who didn't want to travel to Alaska to watch the Bulldogs. Seven schools have agreed to reform the conference including Bemidji State, Bowling Green, Ferris, Lake Superior State,

Michigan Tech, Minnesota State and Northern Michigan.

Not included in the initial school release were the likes of Alaska and Alaska-Anchorage, along with Alabama-Huntsville. This cuts nearly 6,500 miles of travel from the schedule along with several weeks away from home.

It is not known yet who else, if anyone else, is going to join the conference.

Ferris athletics were contacted to but were unavailable to comment as all schools are directing questions to sole spokesperson Dr. Morris Kurtz. Kurtz is an athletics and

hockey consultant who has been part of the process since its inception.

If the CCHA league name sounds familiar, that's because the Bulldogs have been a part of the conference since 1979 until the league's dissolution in 2013. The league was founded in 1971 making its return in 2021 even more special as the league will be celebrating 50 years since its inception. Currently, the league has no official commissioner, a position that the league hopes to have in place by Wednesday, July 1.

CCHA | see page 13

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Let the madness begin

Men's basketball looks to take hold of GLIAC Tournament

Austin Arquette
Torch Reporter

The Bulldogs are back in the GLIAC champion's circle once again.

The No. 11 nationally ranked Ferris men's basketball team won the GLIAC regular season Championship outright on Thursday, Feb. 27.

Ferris finished the regular season with an overall record of 27-5 and claimed the No. 1 seed in the GLIAC tournament. The No. 1 seed comes with an added benefit, as the Bulldogs will host their quarterfinal game against Northern Michigan.



Andy Bronkema

Head Coach Andy Bronkema said that the team feels good but that there is still a lot of basketball to be played. Any team can win the GLIAC tournament with a mess of talented teams in the mix.

"Each team has a powerful element. Tech's most power element is equal to Grand Valley's which is equal to Wayne State, who isn't going to make the tournament. We just have good teams," Bronkema said. "Whoever we get matched up with we are going to

prepare for them. The only time we look ahead is just to look and say, 'hey we want to win the GLIAC tournament, we want to win the regional, the nationals.' We want to win."

If they can dispatch Northern Michigan, Ferris will play the winner of Northwood and Davenport Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. on the Bulldog's home floor. After these two games the bulldogs can run into either the No. 2 seed in Grand Valley or No. 3 seed Michigan Tech.

Senior center Cole Walker said the team will need to eliminate mental errors and stay sharp while keeping the opposition's shooting percentage low.



Cole Walker

"I don't see any rough patches or anything. I think we will be able to take whatever comes our way and we will just prepare for it and be good to go," Walker said. "I would like to see us take down GV because they get some hype that we don't really get. Then, the team has been talking, and we would like to play Bellarmine and take them down because regional rankings love them, and we'd like to show them wrong."

Junior wing Michael Peterson said that any team in the GLIAC will be tough as every team is going to be ready to

go. Peterson said that to him Grand Valley is the toughest matchup based on record, while Michigan Tech has an edge talent wise.



Michael Peterson

"It starts with the GLIAC because we think if we win the GLIAC tournament we would have a good chance to host the region. That's our top goal right now and we have to win the tournament for that to happen," Peterson said. "Once you get to the tournament anything can happen. Anybody can beat anybody, so we have as good as a chance as anybody to win the whole thing. We are just trying to finish strong with the regular season and go into the tournament confident."

Getting back to the national championship is Walker's goal as his career highlight came when the Bulldogs won it all in the 2017-2018 season. Senior Greg Williams, senior D'angelo Hughes, junior Jaylin McFadden and Peterson were also a part of the team that won the school's first national title.

It took 90 years to reach the first national championship and it could be 90 more or never again, but it's a one-game-at-a-time mentality, Bronkema said.

CCHA

Continued from page 12

The new conference will be bringing a lot of fire power with the seven schools having a combined 8 national championships between them. Michigan Tech and Lake Superior State have three each while Northern Michigan and Bowling Green have one national championship apiece.

Unlike the past iteration of the CCHA, Ferris State will not have to worry about the appearance of Big Ten programs. Ohio State, Michigan State, Michigan, and Notre Dame were all in the conference more than 30 years prior to forming the Big Ten conference in hockey.

This move does make the competition harder for the struggling hockey team. Alabama-Huntsville was the sole team the finished below the Bulldogs in the WCHA conference standings while Alaska-Anchorage held the eighth spot by four points over Ferris State.

Luckily, this conference is still a season away, giving the Bulldogs a year to improve their standing in the WCHA before the re-alliance increases competition.

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A full team effort

Dawgs look to continue strong play in the Sunshine State

Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

The Ferris women's softball team is looking to carry their momentum from their crossover games down to the Sunshine State.

After their 1-4 start, the Bulldogs have rattled off three wins in a row, including a walk-off homerun by sophomore pitcher/utility player Kaitlyn Orme to help clinch the win against Southern Indiana. The next day they came out strong and dominated Lake Erie 15-5 and finished off the double header beating Truman 10-5.

The Bulldogs have seen a healthy dose of contributions from everyone so far in the lineup. Not just one or two standout players but a full team effort.

"If you look 1-9 in our hitting lineup, we have been pretty solid across the board. There hasn't been one person that has been really struggling or really one person that has been really good. Everyone has been good" said, Head Coach Kristin Janes.



Kristin Janes

"That has been really cool that there hasn't been one glaring hole. That there hasn't been a problem they all have been filling in and stepping up when we need them too," Janes said.

Their leadoff hitter junior short stop Kodi Ramirez does a great job of consistently getting on base. Hitting second is usually sophomore outfielder Kylie Winkels who does a stellar job of mov-

ing Ramirez around the bases and giving her opportunities to steal bases as well.

Batting third is junior outfielder Paige Kortz, who gives them an advantage being able to go from left-handed batter, to a righty, and back to a lefty to begin games. This order really gives opposing pitchers trouble seeing different hitters every at bat. You will usually see junior transfer catcher Ali Magiera in that 4-5 hole who has already had some big games. After that you can see Kaitlyn Orme who has been solid so far.

Another standout has been Jessica Tucci who has been killing the ball as of late. During their last trip for the crossover she hit three triples and for a girl who stands at just five feet tall she really has some power at the plate.

The Dawgs are trying to keep this stellar play and momentum going as they make their annual trip to Florida.



Kodi Ramirez

"We feel very confident going into Florida. I'd say that we now have higher expectations for ourselves since we now know what we are fully capable of" said, junior Kodi Ramirez.

"I'd say that most of us are definitely excited for the weather and getting ready to play in warm weather. We are also excited and ready to challenge other teams."

Softball will be back in action on March 7 down in Florida to kick off the first game of 12 in seven days.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

OPINIONS

"I'll never forget being able to visit the incredibly small town where my mother grew up and seeing the trail she had to walk in order to attend school every day"
- Veronica Mascorro - See below for story

Jonny Parshall | Opinions Editor | parshar@ferris.edu

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DIVIDED OPINIONS

5-day binge

Spring break is nearly upon us and don't lie to yourself or anyone else. We know you haven't been in the gym getting that "spring break bod" into shape. More likely you've been drinking beer on the couch watching football or drinking wine on Bachelor Mondays.

But hey, it's OK. You are not alone. I promise!

And when you think about it, does it really matter? If you are cool, like me, you will be on Daytona Beach with thousands of other college students getting your party on and not being able to tell who's attractive or not. Your biggest decision will be which bars to get another tequila shot into your system.

Let's be real, that is where you should want to be for your college spring break.

Save that "bucket list" trip to Europe for when you are living your boring life at that boring job. This is the one time in your life when all you are expected to do is go buck wild for five days on a beach in Florida with all your friends doing stupid things. Yeah you heard me! This is the one time in life you can waste your parent's money and tell them it's for something important.

Be sure to explain how important it is for you to experience different things and meet new people when you have the chance. Parents are suckers for that one. They will send you off and let you waste their money on cases of beer and entry fees to the best parties on the beach.

Hey who knows! Maybe you will win that Bikini Contest!

How is the best way to spend spring break?



Greg Williams
Torch Reporter

Or you might win that push-up contest with all the other meatheads. It doesn't matter as long as you get another shot in your system and are never seen without a beer in your hand.

That's what spring break is all about: not being able to move on the third day because you forgot to apply sunblock to your back. It's about looking for your friend in the morning because they couldn't make it back to the hotel room and found a nice sandcastle to sleep next to. It is all part of the experience.

This will give you a great opportunity when you are old and washed up sitting on your front porch. The stories you will tell will be legendary and you will forget all about your mediocre life. You might as well have fun while you can and deal with the consequences after the fact.

The only regret you will have is when you wake up every morning with a vigorous headache. Don't worry, by 10 a.m. you will have a Red Bull vodka in your hand ready to take on the day.

So get a group of friends and book that trip before you grow old, get married and have kids. When you're at that point in your life you will thank me for writing this article and putting some common sense into your brain.

You're welcome.

Do something meaningful



Veronica Mascorro
Torch Reporter

People often take advantage of spring break to party in Florida, but is that really best way to spend the break?

I vote no, if you have the money to travel why not spend it wisely and do something culturally enriching. Personally, I'm not going anywhere during this spring break because I spent all of my money traveling around Mexico during the winter break.

During the 20-day break I spent half of my time in El Salto Jalisco with my mom's side of the family and the other half in Tepic, Nayarit, with my dad's side. During this time I saw so many new sights and learn even more about my culture.

It's not that I don't like to party, don't get me wrong. I love going to parties and having fun, but realistically you aren't really going to remember everything that you did while on your party binge. Unless I think about specific parties that I've attended, I don't remember much of what happened. But when I think back on my trip to Mexico, I remember so much about it and all the memories I've made.

I'll never forget being able to visit the incredibly small town where my mother grew up and seeing the trail she had to walk to attend school every day, or being able to see my grandpa for the fourth time ever.

The food, as well, is another whole thing that you need to experience. When you travel to other locations you're able to try all sorts of new foods that aren't available to you in the U.S. and you eat so much. I probably gained a few pounds during my trip,

but they were very worth it. In Mexico for example, every night my siblings and I would visit the plaza at night to get a treat. We would also go to the Tianguis which is similar to an open market. There you could purchase an abundance of local and artisanal products.

Overall, being able to travel to another country is something that really helps you learn about who you are. While abroad you have to think quick on your feet and may encounter an abundance of scenarios. It's good to challenge yourself and develop skills you might not have even know you had.

On top of that it can bring new adventures into your life. While in Mexico, I went ziplining over a river that was full of crocodiles. That's not something that many can say they have done. I also got to hold a scorpion and play around with it. In the moment those things were terrifying to do, but they were moments that I will never forget.

Being able to see and learn about a different culture is something that is truly enriching and something you'll never forget. If you have the money to travel, do so but go somewhere that you've never been. Being able to say that you backpacked across Europe for a week instead of partying in Florida is something that not many can say that they've done.

Be the one who has.

Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Noah Poser

One less lonely 'dawg

College is a busy time, especially at this point in the year with spring break on the horizon and the school year quickly coming to a close.

There is so much to be done you might think that you'd have no time for any other problems in life. Unfortunately, that isn't the case.

Every day, we run around doing the thousands of things we need to get done. It's a never-ending cycle. We wake up, we eat (sometimes), we go to class, we work and then we go to bed. The next day, we do the same.

The extra always seems to creep in. Whether it be stress, anxiety or even loneliness, it doesn't wait on anyone, no matter how much you have to get done.

Some may ask how someone could be lonely when surrounded by people at all points of the day, but if you think about it, it's not as hard as you may think.

To be lonely is to be sad because of a

lack of friends or company. At least, that's the basic definition. In reality, it's way more complex than that.

The truth is that one can be lonely even in a crowded room, even if the crowded room is filled with some of a person's closest friends.

This can be for a number of different reasons. These feelings can come from social, family, emotional or even romantic situations.

You may feel you can't rely on your friends in time of distress, you may have just left a long-term relationship, you may never have been in a romantic relationship, or you may have family problems that cause you to feel lonely. Heck, your loneliness could even come from something such as a lack of sleep — a problem many college students face.

Just know, if you have any of these feelings, you are not alone. So many others are suffering from these same exact feelings.

And you know what, there is good news. This problem can be fixed.

There are steps you can take to relieve yourself of these feelings. Just note, these are just basic solutions to a worldwide problem. They are not guaranteed fixes to magically make your negative feelings go away.

The first step you can take to try and rid yourself of these feelings of loneliness may sound easy on the surface, but is extremely difficult for a lot of people.

Sleep.

If you can find a way to sneak in about seven to nine hours of sleep a night, it will do wonders for your mental health.

The next tip also may sound cliché, but it works wonders.

Try to help others out, whether it be strangers you see struggling to do something, or it be a friend stressing about a huge project, helping them do stuff and feel better will make you feel better. It will also help you to connect with people.

Then comes the last piece of advice. This one is definitely the most challenging of the three, but it's the one that's most critical if you want to make these feelings disappear.

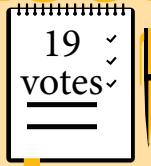
The biggest thing you have to do is figure out what you're missing from your life, as that is the only true way you can resolve these feelings.

There are many ways to do it. Write down your feelings, talk to a therapist, or even just try to find a relaxing activity which you can do while sitting and pondering life. This is the best thing one can do to truly get over their feelings once and for all.

College is a busy time, and there is truly no end to the rest of life's problems.

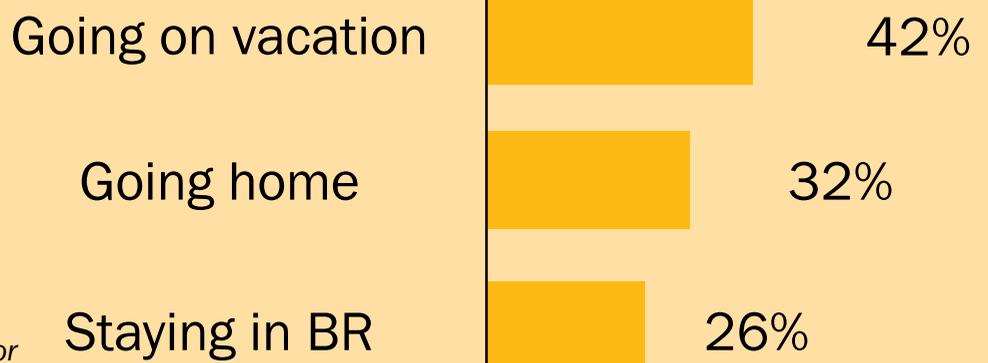
There is always a light at the end of the tunnel, and in this case summer vacation is the hope we have looking forward to the end of the year.

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What are you doing for spring break?



Make the right move

Lions need to focus on defense in draft



Austin Arquette
Torch Reporter

The 2020 NFL Scouting Combine on Sunday, Feb. 23, through Monday, March 2, for prospects to show off their talents.

As the Detroit Lions hold the third overall pick in the 2020 NFL draft, the need for a massive amount of defensive talent is too much to overlook as the offseason continues. The Lions already have a profound offense with quarterback Matthew Stafford under center. While the team focused on offense and defense last season when they brought in tight-end T.J. Hockenson with their first overall pick and linebacker Jahlani Tavai out of Hawaii, it wasn't enough to secure a playoff spot in the regular season.

With the team having a few more issues than talent, it was the front office who struggled to get the team on the right track to win games. General Manager Bob Quinn traded away safety Quandre Diggs and this sparked a divide in the players belief of what they mean to the team. Many of these actions in the long run of the season led to controver-

sy between leaders and players regarding loyalty and trust in the players.

The Lions look nothing like what they used to when they were in the playoffs back in 2016. They still need to turn things around. To get back to that level, this team must be defense-oriented all around and that starts with the draft.

The Lions have a real shot at landing Ohio State's defensive end Chase Young, who is the number one pass rusher in the draft. The Lions should be able to land Young based on the projected first two picks being quarterbacks with the Cincinnati Bengals and the Washington Redskins both in need of a quarterback. The Bengals are linked to Louisiana State University quarterback Joe Burrow, but the Redskins search is a different story.

Washington can look at taking the next best quarterback in the draft in Tua Tagovailoa from Alabama if they don't believe in the first round draft pick from last season Dwayne Haskins or they can agree to a trade with another quarterback needy team such as the Miami Dolphins, Los Angeles Chargers, Carolina Panthers and the Indianapolis Colts.

If Washington does agree to a trade that would make the first two picks in the 2020 NFL draft coming from the quarterback position and would allow the Lions to take Young at the number three spot and secure a solid pass rusher for years to come. From there, the Lions can focus on improving

their secondary with either drafting a linebacker or cornerback. With the third pick being the Lions only first round pick in the draft this year it is imperative they draft someone who will help the team now and get them into the playoffs as the owner Martha Ford has stressed a win now attitude.

If the Lions cannot land Young, the next best thing they can do is trade back and get either another late first round pick or more picks in later on in the draft and continue building a team that can make a run for their first Super Bowl in franchise history.

If a trade is necessary, the Lions should trade the third overall pick with whatever package deal they can get the most out of and invest in the defense as that is by far the biggest issue and should be top priority. If the Lions do trade back in the draft, they should go after Ohio State's cornerback Jeff Okudah or linebacker Isaiah Simmons from Clemson. Both would fill spots on the defense that need help. If the Lions cannot find a way to keep cornerback Darius Slay, they need to go after Okudah as this will then become their biggest need.

The 85th annual NFL draft will take place in Las Vegas on Thursday, April 23, starting at 8 p.m. when the Bengals go on the clock.

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