



Ferris State University
TORCH
Truth, fairness and accuracy since 1931

HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

PREPARING FOR THE WORST

What factors would lead to Ferris closing back down? Is the university prepared for this possibility?

NEWS | PAGE 2

ACKNOWLEDGE THE MOVEMENT

Ferris basketball players talk about the NBA's movement to support social justice efforts.

SPORTS | PAGE 10

He's 'New in Town'

SNL actor and stand-up comedian John Mulaney coming virtually to Big Rapids for annual homecoming show



Promotional photo

Alyssa Hubbard
News Reporter

Ferris announced on Wednesday, Sept. 16, that John Mulaney will be this year's homecoming comedian and it will be an interactive virtual event.

John Mulaney has an immense number of accreditations from, writing on multiple seasons on the long-running improv show Saturday Night Live (SNL), to having three Netflix specials.

Mulaney started his career at the Comedy Central office in 2004 after graduating from Georgetown University. After working four years at Comedy Central he continued on to audition for a spot on the SNL cast. Sadly, he did not make it on the cast, yet he was offered a spot on the writing team.

Mulaney wrote for SNL for four seasons and from there he he started to gain traction. He wrote and performed around the United States doing stand-up comedy specials, got his own television show, which only lasted a season, and wrote a kids-musical for Netflix. Mulaney also has three Netflix comedy specials: The Comeback Kid, Kid Gorgeous at Radio City and New in Town

Over the years Mulaney has won two Emmys, one for outstanding music and lyrics for the 2011 Justin Timberlake monologue on SNL, and the other for outstanding writing for a variety special in 2018 for his special Kid Gorgeous at Radio City.

Ferris managed to acquire Mulaney's talent by working with Entertainment Unlimited.

EU has been in the process of finding a homecoming comedian since March 2020. The COVID season was not going to stop homecoming events from happening.

"We wanted the students to have something exciting to come back to this year with all the changes happening," EU president and homecoming committee president Lane Steffke said. "Although the comedy show will look different this year, it will still be a very fun event for the Ferris community."

This year, the comedy show will look a little different. It's a Q&A with Mulaney as opposed to a traditional show and students can watch from their own space. Students can submit questions for Mulaney through Bulldog Connect.

"The event will be a moderated

Q&A and will be available to watch live through an unlisted YouTube link," Steffke said. "Students can ask questions to be submitted through the link in the Bulldog Connect event."

The homecoming event committee knew that Mulaney was a favorite among students. It became a mission to make sure he was available for this online opportunity.

"...he's an insightful person and a great comedian. I can't wait to see him here at Ferris."

Nicholas Smith is the coordinator of activities at the Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services and he helped with the final decisions for hiring a comedian.

"Since the show will be virtual, this created an opportunity to get a larger performer than would be available for an in-person show," Smith said. "John Mulaney has come up before as a suggestion but was never a realistic possibility. This year, it became a real option."

There are many factors to consider when choosing and contacting potential performers for university events like this.

"For Ferris, a lot of research goes into a performer selection," Smith said. "We look at cost and availability, reviews from other performances, if they have performed at other colleges and how those shows have gone."

Entertainment Unlimited received an overwhelmingly positive response after their comedian announcement. Ferris students showed a lot of excitement on various social media platforms.

"I've been a fan of John Mulaney for quite a while now," digital animation and game design junior Jared Ebels said. "I've seen all of his Netflix specials and think he's an insightful person and a great comedian. I can't wait to see him here at Ferris."

John Mulaney will be performing 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8. More details are available on the Bulldog Connect website.

Got news? Let us know.

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NEWS

Ry Rodriguez | News Editor | rodrir16@ferris.edu

Preparing for the worst

Re-entry committee discusses the possibility of Ferris closing

Veronica Mascorro
News Reporter

With campus remaining open for approximately four weeks now, some students are wondering if Ferris will make it to the Thanksgiving break.

Ferris computer information systems senior Justice Higgins is a student questioning it, based on what she's seen from other universities.

"I honestly am really surprised we haven't closed yet," Higgins said. "My sister goes to Grand Valley and with it currently on quarantine and everything going so downhill I can see the same thing happening at Ferris. I wouldn't be surprised if we closed before the thanksgiving break. I think we'll be lucky if we make it that far."

What exactly would cause Ferris to close its campus again? Communications officer, Michelle Rasmussen, who is on the university's Re-entry Committee, talked about the different factors that would go into making this decision.

"A decision like this would be based on a variety of factors, including our positive COVID-19 cases and clusters, and the growth of those two factors; the availability of our quarantine and isolation space on campus; case management capabilities; the capacity in our community for testing and hospital space; and any and all guidance/actions taken by the health department and our governor," said Rasmussen.

Based off of the different factors, Rasmussen also covered the plan that Ferris has set in place in case the university closes again.

"We are ready and prepared to pivot back to remote instruction, as we did last March, should conditions warrant," said Rasmussen. "The university has already planned to pivot to remote instruction where possible after the Thanksgiving break and will continue this method of course delivery through finals week."

A few programs would be heavily affected by this since a big portion of their programs rely on in-person classes such as Nursing and Dental Hygiene students.

Associate Vice President for External Relations, Jeremy Mishler, who is also on the universities Re-entry Committee stressed that this should not be an issue as they are

working hard on providing proper alternatives for students.

"The college has a backup plan in the event we have to move to advanced simulation technologies and other alternative deliveries. We are committed to seeing our students through graduation," said Mishler.

A big thing that Ferris cannot promise based on the current executive orders is having an in-person graduation ceremony for December.

"As it stands right now, we are still operating under Executive Orders that limit our ability to host large, indoor, in-person events. If those orders are still in place, we will not be able to host an in-person graduation ceremony in December," said Rasmussen.

As of now Ferris plans to continue with delivery in-person, online, and HyFlex course deliveries in the spring.

"The guidelines we have now may or may not be in place, depending on what the situation warrants," said Mishler. "We would continue to follow all local, state and national guidance and directives."

With the news of returning back to campus next semester, students are glad that they will receive the chance to learn in person, but many would like to see a change in the way testing for COVID-19 is being conducted.

Higgins disliked that only a percentage of the student body were tested during the move in week.

"I don't feel like the number of confirmed cases at Ferris is super accurate especially towards the beginning because they only tested students living on campus and not commuters which is a huge part of Ferris's student base," Higgins said. So, I feel like it's probably half of what the number probably actually is."

Mishler said that the way they are conducting COVID-19 testing is changing as they gather new information.

"Our testing and surveillance monitoring strategy is ongoing and does include both on- and off-campus. It continues to evolve as we move forward, depending on what we know now and the availability of tests," said Mishler.

Rasmussen closed off with a final message for students in regard to everything surrounding COVID-19.

"As we navigate through this pandemic, our plan is to provide the best living/learn-

"I wouldn't be surprised if we closed before the thanksgiving break. I think we'll be lucky if we make it that far."



Photo by: Benjamin Totten | Torch Photographer

The University Center is open for students to study at socially distanced work spaces, separated by glass.

ing environment possible for our students as long we are able to manage and mitigate the risks related to COVID-19. We are monitoring our situation carefully, working alongside public health experts, and continually making adjustments and decisions that put the health and safety of our campus community at the forefront. Thank you to all of our students, faculty and staff for taking the COVID-19 directives seriously. You are mak-

ing a difference on our campus, and not only keeping yourself safe, but those around you as well," said Rasmussen.

Students can find updates regarding COVID-19 at [ferris.edu/coronavirus](https://www.ferris.edu/coronavirus) or check the amount of cases on campus at <https://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/coronavirus/covid-19-dashboard.htm>

Want to write for the Torch but don't have the time every week?

The Torch is now accepting freelance articles!

Pitch your story idea to our Editor in Chief, Cora Hall. If we like your story, we'll send you out to report and write and if we publish it, you'll get paid.

Email hallc36@ferris.edu for more information or to pitch a story!



Bolton under scrutiny

John Bolton, subpoenaed for possibly having classified information in his memoir

Mason Grunow and Ry Rodriguez
News Reporter, News Editor

President Trump's former National Security Advisor, John Bolton, is under investigation by the Department of Justice, for the possibility of leaking classified documents in his memoir *The Room Where It Happened*.

The investigation marks the second time the Department of Justice has acted against Bolton over his memoir. Earlier in the year, the Department sued to stop the release of the memoir, claiming the book contained classified information that could threaten national security, as well as hurting the integrity of the presidency.

The lawsuit, however, was filed after the memoir was already published and distributed, soon to be released to the public. "With hundreds of thousands of copies around the globe — many in newsrooms — the damage is done," wrote Royce C. Lamberth of Washington, D.C., the judge presiding over the first case against Bolton. As such, the request to cease distribution was denied.

Just when Bolton thought he was in the clear, a grand jury subpoenaed the records for the book, including notes from the publisher, indicating that Bolton has ill-intentions in releasing his book.

With a grand jury officially sending out subpoenas for this probe, it makes the whole case a criminal in-

vestigation, making this hurt Bolton's reputation and sales for his new book.

Bolton and his lawyer have agreed to cooperate with any all investigations. This could help with the investigation to go by quicker and smoother. Leak investigations are one of the longest processes to go through court because most of the testimony is 'hearsay', which is not clear evidence to indict and convict a former security advisor.

The book is said, to focus about the 17-month tenure of John Bolton's position of national security advisor to the now President Trump, in which it said that trump was a "uninformed leader", and "erratic" at times.

If found guilty of illegally disclosing classified information in this case, Bolton could lose all profits from his book sales, with that money being redirected to the Federal government.

Bolton was a Washington insider with years of experience in politics. He filled various roles in Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and George W. Bush's administrations, as well as an official United States ambassador to the United Nations from 2005 to 2006.

Bolton has been critiqued with his bold strategies with the focus of Western intervention into countries of Iraq, Venezuela, Ukraine, and many other middle eastern countries, in which all governments have resulted in destabilization.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Vander-bake

Cora Hall
Editor in Chief

Vander-bake

Sept. 15, 3:28 p.m., officers responded to a report of marijuana in Vandercook Hall. They cited a subject for being a minor in possession of less than 2.5 ounces or 12 plants of marijuana.

OK chill on the weed

Sept. 21, 9:40 p.m., officers responded to reports of marijuana in Clark Hall. The offense was for a minor in possession of less than 2.5 ounces or 12 plants of marijuana.

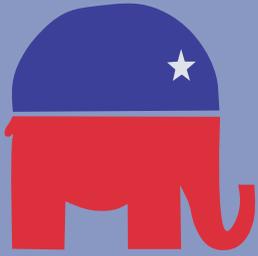
"Smoke-free campus"

Sept. 18, 7:50 p.m., officers received a report of marijuana use in Hallisy Hall. The case was closed and no citations were issued.



Crimes on campus can be reported to DPS at - 231-591-5000 -

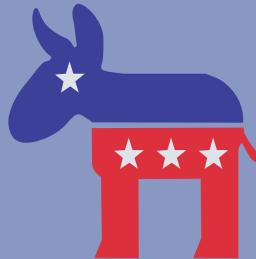
2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION UPDATE



POLL NUMBERS

JOE BIDEN UP BY 9.67 POINTS IN MICHIGAN

JOE BIDEN UP BY 6.7 POINTS IN U.S.



TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Sept. 24: "Cops for Trump" VP Pence in Minneapolis, Minnesota
"Great American Comeback" rally. Pres. Trump in Jacksonville, Florida

Sept. 24: Pres. Trump in Charlotte, North Carolina

Sept. 26: "Great American Comeback" rally, Pres. Trump in Middletown, Pennsylvania

Poll numbers taken from FiveThirtyEight

BIDEN'S CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Sept. 22: VP candidate Kamala Harris made stops in Flint and Detroit.

Sept. 23: Pres. candidate Joe Biden in Charlotte, North Carolina

Sept. 25: Pres. candidate Joe Biden in Duluth, Minnesota

A Presidential Election debate will be held Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 9 p.m. on every major network and cable news channel, as well as YouTube.

Torch Corrections

Did we make a mistake?
Let us know!

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

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Updated August 13, 2020

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



TUNE INTO OUR WEEKLY PODCAST WITH RY RODRIGUEZ

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Working it out

Student rec center makes adjustments to reopen under Governor Whitmer's Executive Order



Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer



Photo by: Benjamin Totten | Torch Photographer

Ferris' Rec center is limited to 25% capacity and not all machines are open.

Students are required to wear masks during their workouts at the Rec center.

Veronica Mascorro News Reporter

After six months of being closed the Rec Center and all gyms across Michigan are now officially open.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-176 on Thursday, Sept. 3, which allowed the reopening of gyms and pools in regions where they had remained closed. The order also allowed organized sports practices and competitions to resume.

With the reopening Whitmer set into place guidelines that gyms must follow to remain open which include:

- Gym-goers will be required to wear a mask at all times, including when working out. An exception to that rule is swimming.
- Gym owners should do their best to offer outdoor workout opportunities.
- Capacity will be limited to 25 percent.
- The size of fitness classes must be reduced to enable 6 feet of separation between attendees.
- Equipment must be regularly disinfected and hand sanitizer or soap and water must be made available to clients.
- The gym must increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors or using fans.
- Steam rooms, saunas, Jacuzzis and cold-plunge pools will be closed.

Nearly two weeks after the announcement, the Rec Center opened its doors for students to come in, this time via appointment.

Because the Rec Center can only be filled up to 25% of its capacity, Ferris has implemented an appointment system where students can go online and reserve a spot in one of the three areas of the Rec Center that are open.

Students can access the weight room, which has power racks, bench presses, smith machines, cable machines and dumbbells. In the upstairs cardio area students can use the cardio machines, cable machines, plate loaded strength machines, and dumbbells. The gymnasium currently has a different layout from before and has workout equipment that are spread out six feet apart from each other. In this area students can use dumbbells with benches, preacher curls, stationary bikes, rowing machines, stretching mats, ab workout equipment, kettle bells and ping pong tables.

As of now the pool, climbing wall, all locker rooms, fitness studios, and open recreation on the gym courts are closed until further notice.

Each workout session has a duration of 45 minutes and students are required to stay in the location they signed up for, for the full time.

Ferris construction management junior Bailey McCarthy works at the Rec Center

and has seen the changes first hand and how students are reacting.

"I think they're taking the right steps and have a lot of precautions. After every 45-minute session is done, we clean every piece of equipment," said McCarthy. "They're honestly taking steps that other gyms in the area, like Planet Fitness, aren't doing. I think it's the safest gym to be at in the Big Rapids area."

So far, students have had mixed opinions on having to set up an appointment.

Ferris mathematics education sophomore Gavin Booher, who is someone who frequents the gym, was disappointed when gyms were shut down. During the shutdown he used the small amount of workout equipment he had available at home, so he had to be creative with his workouts. Booher didn't mind having to make an appointment.

"The process is very easy and it adds more structure to my day knowing specifically when I have to work out," said Booher. "The changes that have been made are going to take some time to get used to, but it's worth it as long as we can still use the facility."

Ferris business administration sophomore Brendan Deneen disliked having to make an appointment.

"It's still kind of weird with everything being split up into three sections," said Deneen. "I used to just come whenever and didn't really have to plan when I wanted to

leave, I like to stay at the Rec for a while so I had to book multiple appointments so that I could stay here."

McCarthy was able to see both sides of these opinions.

"In all honesty I think the appointments are going to be a pain for some students. I think they won't be as motivated and the numbers are going to be lower because people might not know how to use the system or they just don't really want to schedule an appointment so they might just go to another place that doesn't require that. But I do think it's a good idea because you can plan your day out and have a little schedule for it," said McCarthy.

McCarthy also noted that so far, every student he has encountered has been wearing a mask during their workouts.

"Everyone has been abiding by the mask rule, but so far not everyone has been cleaning up after themselves, so it's just a constant reminder to everyone to remember to wash down their equipment for the courtesy of others," said McCarthy.

The Rec Center has new hours and will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Students can make appointments at <https://ferrisstateurec.ezfacility.com/Sessions>

WANT TO WORK OUT AT THE REC?

NEW HOURS

MON-THUR: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

FRI: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

SAT-SUN: CLOSED

AREAS YOU CAN RESERVE

Weight Room - capacity: 23
Upstairs Cardio Area - capacity: 37
Gymnasium - capacity: 40

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- If you feel sick—stay home
- Masks must be worn at all times
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from others at all times
- Clean machines and equipment before and after use
- Sanitize your hands at the stations in each workout area
- Exit your area after your 45-minute reservation is over

FIRST, BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT

1. Go to <https://ferrisstateurec.ezfacility.com/Sessions>
2. Create your account
3. Pick the day and time you want to work out
4. After picking the day, time and work out area, click BOOK

Can't make your workout? Cancel it by selecting the workout and hitting CANCEL

Information gathered from ferris.edu

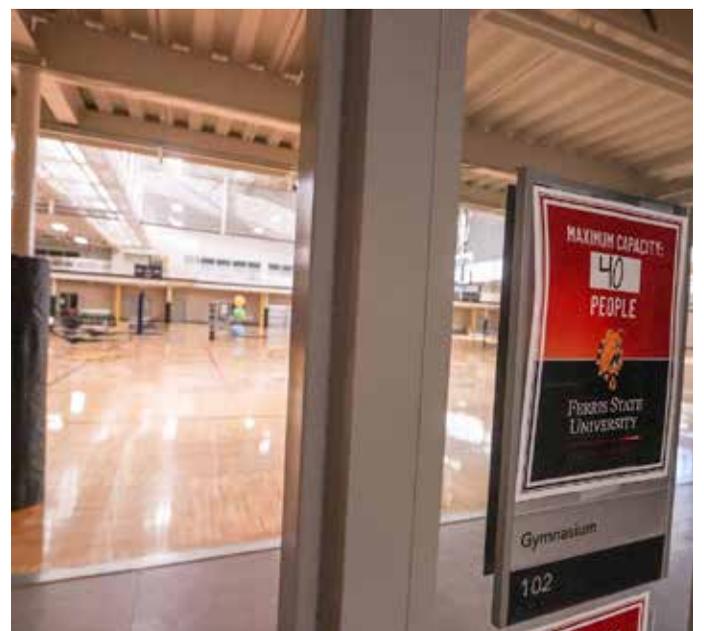
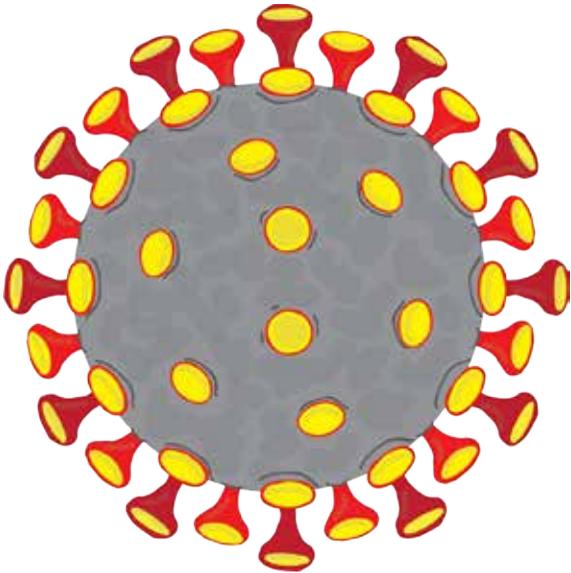


Photo by: Hunter Pariseau | Torch Photographer

Student offers perspective after having COVID-19

‘COVID made me realize that there is something serious going on’



Graphic by: Charlie Zitta | Production Assistant

Alyssa Hubbard
News Reporter

What’s it really like to have COVID-19?

A Ferris student who contracted the virus over the summer described her situation to help others understand the severity of this illness.

Mackenzie Foy is a fifth-year elementary education student and a resident advisor at Ferris. She discovered that she had tested positive for COVID-19 back in July 2020 while she was living at home with her family.

“I had just gotten home, I laid in bed and I felt like I had the shivers” Foy said. “I could barely sleep and eventually I felt my forehead and it was super hot. I walked downstairs

and took my temperature, and it was over 101 degrees.”

Foy immediately alerted her mother and contacted her sister, who worked in a COVID-19 testing lab. Foy took the nasal swab test and her sister brought it to the lab. The results were ready just hours after the test: it was positive.

Friends and family members of Foy got tested as well because they were in close contact with her. Everyone involved quarantined for around 10 days.

Ferris dental hygiene senior Abbey Dixon was one of Foy’s friends that needed to isolate over the summer.

“I was calm and was happy she told me right when she started showing symptoms” Dixon said.

Because Foy was unable to leave her room, her parents took care of everything she needed.

“My family was more worried about me than themselves” Foy said. “I had made sure to wash my hands regularly and be as safe as possible ... they made sure to bring me food and to be as safe as possible during the time.”

Foy was also interning as a lead teacher at a daycare during that time. The establishment closed for two weeks in case of a COVID-19 contamination.

During her 10-day quarantine, Foy found different ways to occupy the time and keep herself busy.

“I was stuck in my bedroom, so I normally stayed on my phone or laptop for most of the day. This would consist of facetimeing friends and family and watching movies. Eventually I had some scrap booking materials delivered to me from my mom and I was able to do that while I was cooped away” Foy said.

Foy took two nasal swab tests at the end of the quarantine period. The results

came back negative and she was released.

Dixon felt at ease when Foy was free to leave isolation because she trusted the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s research on coronavirus and its effects.

“It felt like the flu and a normal sickness,” Foy said. “All my friends and family just made sure I was okay. COVID-19 is different for everyone, so I was lucky enough to be in a home and have the proper safety precautions and I was not as sick as others.”

To avoid further COVID exposure, Foy continues to social distance and only interacts with close friends and staff members. She wants to respect others, especially those more susceptible to the illness.

“COVID made me realize that there is something serious going on,” Foy said. “Now that we wear masks and social distance, it makes me realize how serious the situation is and how I can make a difference by wearing a mask and respecting the regulations.”

Ferris heavily enforced these rules, among others, throughout campus in hopes of limiting the spread of COVID in the Big Rapids community.

One of the university’s most severe restriction is on students attending or hosting large parties. Students could face serious consequences if these rules are broken.

“I think partying can be taken many ways,” Foy said. “I think it is okay to be with a small group of friends that you see regularly and stay with that same group while social distancing still of course... But a party that has more than 15 people and with complete strangers should not happen because that could spread COVID so easily.”

The university has already begun seeing problems with students not obeying the new restrictions and the COVID numbers are slowly rising. The case count dashboard was last updated on Friday, Sept. 18 and listed 105 cumulative positive cases since Aug. 24.



Abbey Dixon



Mackenzie Foy

THIS WEEK IN MICHIGAN NEWS

Catch up on news around the state

Ry Rodriguez
News Editor

COVID-19 UPDATED COUNTS

Confirmed Positive Cases: 128,151*

Confirmed Recovered Cases: 90,216**

Confirmed Deaths: 6,971*

***From The NYT updated almost every four (4) hours**

****Michigan.gov updated every Saturday**

Capital Update

From Detroit’s WXYZ 7 Channel news, the Governor’s extension to the emergencies act has had push back from the republican lawmakers. Whitmer said “the thing that keeps me up at night is the fact that all this sacrifice that we’ve made and the work that we’ve done could just evaporate if we drop out guard, if we stop masking up,” to the Associated Press Thursday, Sept. 17. The republican law makers have protested each of Gov. Whitmer’s executive orders and have challenged in Michigan courts. Chief Justice Bridgette McCormick said, “all of these cases are pending so it would be inappropriate for me to comment or say anything about then, other than we will continue to look at the pending cases and rule on them as soon as they have made a decision” in an interview with The Torch.

Sports Update

The Detroit Lions have had a rough start to the season with a record of 0-2 with in total only 44 points scored, and 69 points allowed. They made history, becoming the first NFL team to lose four consecutive games in which they’ve held a double digit lead, according to ESPN. They face the Arizona Cardinals next 4:25 p.m. Sunday on FOX. The Detroit Tigers sit in the 4th slot in the AL Central and with the Team Manager, Ron ‘Gardy’ Gardenhire, retiring it is up in the air on who the tigers are going to hire next. The Tigers play the Kansas City Royals next 8:05 p.m. Thursday.

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LIFESTYLES

Marissa Russell | *Lifestyles Editor* | russem22@ferris.edu

The pros and cons of online learning



Photo by: Benjamin Totten | Torch Photographer

A student wears a mask in the University Center while doing work for an online class.

Students and teachers share their experiences with learning via Zoom

Kendall Rooks
Lifestyles Reporter

As the year is progressing, students and professors are getting more comfortable with the idea of attending online classes as a university this semester.

Alyson Grayshaw, a forensic biology junior likes the schedule that accompanies online classes.



Alyson Grayshaw

"They give you more flexibility with when you can complete class rather than having to be in class at a certain time on a certain day," Grayshaw said.

Riley Eggers, a criminal justice senior, added on saying, "They leave a lot of room for availability and for work. I enjoy it because I am able to see friends and family at any time because I can always take my schoolwork with me wherever I go."

Along with the advantages of being in online classes students are also talking about the disadvantage. Grayshaw and Eggers both agreed that it is easier for them to learn hands on in the face-to-face atmosphere.

"I feel as though I am more motivated to do my work when I see my professors regularly because I really get to know them and gain more respect and understanding for their expectations and that is huge for me," Eggers said. "It is also easier to ask them more questions in person rather than having to wait for an email response."

Luckily professors have been more understanding now that everything is online. Eggers mentioned that all of her professors have been trying their absolute best to give us a great learning experience and to stay as involved as they can with students through email, Zoom, and Canvas. All this said, Grayshaw and Eggers agreed that it was unlikely that they would consider taking online courses again in the future.

The students of Ferris are not the only ones who are working through the new online classes.

"For me personally, as an "upper middle-aged" instructor, it negates some of the current risks and allows me to focus on the teaching content of my courses," said Professor David Brown of the College of Business. "I am also a bit of a technology aficionado, so I have personally enjoyed the challenge of using beta software and building out a mini-studio to conduct these virtual Zoom courses."

Brown finds that Zoom classes are somewhat of a middle ground when it comes to delivery this semester.



David Brown

"Some on-campus students prefer face-to-face, but we also have off-campus degree-completion students who are working jobs and would prefer online classes. However, current enrollment levels do not justify offering multiple sections of the courses across both delivery formats."

Along with Eggers and Grayshaw, Brown agreed, "I miss the "more human" interactions of being in the same physical space with my students. Zoom technology is wonderful, but it's simply not the same as being in the same room. Interactions are bit more awkward due to technology lag times and occasional glitches."

He has also found that students often have technology issues such as not having up-to-date hardware and software as well as Wi-Fi connection and that it can be frustrating not being able to help.

"Quite honestly, for all of the negative aspects I just mentioned, I think the Virtual Zoom class teaching environment is still a net positive, even after the pandemic subsides," Brown said.

Brown tries his best to make his Zoom classroom mimic face-to-face.

"I am able to present material in "newscaster" fashion so that students are able to see me while also seeing the content about which I am speaking," Brown said. "It also allows me to share and demonstrate external resources like web pages, videos, documents, and even my smart phone screen while I can simultaneously "point things out" on whatever resource I am displaying to students."

Studying abroad in a global pandemic

I didn't know what to expect studying abroad, but it certainly wasn't that



Cora Hall in front of the Reichstag Building in Berlin, Germany on July 1.

Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief



The small village of Riomaggiore in the Cinque Terre, Italy on July 11.

Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief



Cows in the Diemtig Valley in Switzerland on July 15

Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief



Cora Hall
Editor in Chief

If I could give one piece of advice to incoming freshman, it would be to fit studying abroad into your academic schedule.

I never traveled much growing up, but I always had a desire to see more of the world. I would watch travel vlogs or see photos from my friends' or grandparent's travels, and I would just think, "Wow. I hope I can go there one day."

It was always a hope for me. Traveling was never something I imagined I could do until I was old and retired. I don't have the time; I don't have the money; it's too hard to figure out on my own. These were all excuses that ran through my head.

My advisor told me at the beginning of my sophomore year in 2018 that I could graduate a semester early, and my first thought was "oh, hell no." I didn't want to officially be an adult any sooner than I had to. I asked if I could fit in a semester of studying abroad and we immediately began to rearrange my schedule over the next three years.

Last semester, on Jan. 31, those plans became a reality. After two years of planning, having three jobs the fall before to save up some money and endless hours of stress trying to get accepted to our partner university, I was finally flying to the Netherlands. I was more nervous than I had been in my whole life, but I was equally excited. My dream to travel was finally coming true.

Moving to another country alone is incredibly daunting. I had no idea what life would be like in Utrecht. I didn't even research the city before moving there, which, looking back, was an insane thing to do. But HU University of Applied Sciences was Ferris' partner university with a journalism program, so it was my only option.

But any expectations I had were absolutely shattered, in a good way. Utrecht was the perfect city and the university I attended was incredible. I couldn't have picked a better city. Life was so different there, but it was refreshing. We rode our bikes everywhere or took the bus. There were student groups on campus that held events to help us get to know the city. The first six weeks there were like a movie.

Then, COVID-19 hit Europe. The first time in my life that I travel, a world pandemic happens. Go figure. After talking with my parents, we originally decided I should stay. The situation wasn't bad in the Netherlands and I had friends who would help take care of me if I did get sick. But in the end, Ferris required me to return home and on March 21, I walked away

from the life I had just begun to fall in love with.

I was home in Lansing, Michigan for six weeks. It was a rough several weeks for me, I'm not going to lie. I barely got out of bed and was not motivated to continue my classes online. At the end of April, my parents and I came to the decision that I would go back. My friends there were doing fine and there were direct flights from Detroit to Amsterdam. Frankly, the COVID situation was worse in Michigan than the Netherlands. So we booked a flight, and I was on my way back.

It was the best decision I ever made.

Life was different than before, but I got to spend two months with my friends, living in our new COVID reality. In the end, we all knew we had become closer than we would have if COVID-19 hadn't happened. I made friends that will last a lifetime. Some of my favorite memories were sitting by the canals, drinking beer and enjoying the beautiful Dutch summer weather.

My best friend there, Karen, and I planned a backpacking trip once borders opened in Europe and we traveled for three weeks. We hopped on trains through Germany, Italy and Switzerland. It's hard to find the words to describe those 21 days. It was the most fun I've ever had in my whole life. There were times it was stressful, like realizing our friend had booked an Airbnb for the wrong weekend upon arriving in Basel, Switzerland. Or when our night train from Munich to Venice somehow got delayed by three hours en route, even though we left on time.

But we saw all the cities we stopped in at the strangest, perhaps most opportune time we could have. Berlin and Venice were empty. We wandered the streets, exploring the cities without the regular tourist crowds. It was unlike anything I've ever seen. All I had heard about Venice before going was how crowded and dirty it was. It was one of the cleanest cities we visited, and I don't think anyone will ever see it that empty again.

The trip itself was more expensive than I originally thought, but it's because we couldn't plan ahead since borders opened June 14 and we left June 29. We were able to get hostel beds for around \$18-\$20 a night and public transport around cities was relatively cheap. Airbnb's were a bit more expensive, but we made up for that by buying groceries and cooking instead of eating out for every meal.

Traveling is the most worthwhile thing you can spend your extra money on. The experiences you'll have and the people you'll meet are incredible. Get out of your own backyard and go see the world, you won't regret it.

Introducing Brutus Bowls

New vending machine provides quick, healthy option



Photo by: Matthew Miller | Lifestyles Reporter

Brutus shows off the newest addition to the Ferris dining services.

Matthew Miller
Lifestyles Reporter

It is time to say goodbye to the junk food of yesterday and hello to the healthy food of today

Brutus Bowls is the hot new vending machine to take the Ferris State campus by storm. This isn't like any other vending machine. It is a salad robot vending machine that was unveiled in its grand opening on Sept. 16 outside the Quad Café in the University Center.

The vending machine, which cost \$39,881, is one first to be on a college campus in Michigan. This included a full maintenance agreement, the food canisters and back up canisters in case any of the other one's break. The vending machine would have made its first appearance last year in 2019 but due to COVID-19, its unveiling was pushed back. It has a combination of 22 ingredients to offer multiple different ways to make your perfect salad.



Steve Dorey

Ferris Culinary Operations Manager Steve Dorey is excited to have the vending machine on campus. He said that with just the one for now, it will be moving to the FLITE library and is a good meal replacement, so students don't have to leave the building.

"They come with the base salads,

the tradition salads and we selected the ingredients that we are going to have in there," Dorey said. "We plan to make changes in the future with the potential for breakfast items. It's really whatever we want to put in the canisters."

There is an option to make your own customizable salad if a person chooses. The canisters are in a refrigerated part to help preserve the ingredients. Each salad will cost between \$5-\$7 depending on if you choose a traditional or customizable.



Jeanie Stout

Salad Maker Jeanie Stout is the salad specialist for Ferris. She is responsible for filling the machine with its ingredients.

"I think it's a good thing, I think it's more of a variety, more for people who don't necessary want to leave where they are at," Stout said. "They can get it at the library or whatever building they are in."

This was an exciting day for our very own mascot, Brutus the Bulldog as he was the ribbon cutter for the unveiling. He was happy to fill his dog bowl up with the very first Brutus Bowl.

A live stream of the event took place over Facebook and Instagram Live to aid in social distancing efforts. The hour-long stream showed how the vending machine worked. The vending machine takes credit cards and Bulldog Bucks.

Events calendar

WEDNESDAY

Sept. 23

Virtual Tours for Hispanic Month

Contact: Kaylee Burke
kayleeburke@ferris.edu
Time: 10- 11 a.m.

EASY 2 mile walk/ jog/ run

Contact: Anna Douglas
annadouglas@ferris.edu
Location: Rec Center
Time: 10:30- 11:30 a.m.

THURSDAY

Sept. 24

Student Voter Town Hall

Contact: Michele Albright
michelealbright@ferris.edu
Location: Online
Time: 11a.m.- 12 p.m.

Lunch Time Crunch Time

Contact: Anna Douglas
annadouglas@ferris.edu
Location: Rec Center
Time: 12-12:30 p.m.

HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training)

Contact: Anna Douglas
annadouglas@ferris.edu
Location: Rec Center
Time: 3- 3:45 p.m.



FRIDAY

Sept. 25

Get Focused Summit

Contact: Latin@ Studies
Location: University Center
Time: 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

FriGay Gaymes

Contact: Sarah Doherty
lgbtqcenter@ferris.edu
Location: Online
Time: 3- 5 p.m.

Homecoming Comedian Competition

Contact: Lane Steffke
steffkl@ferris.edu
Location: Campus Quad
Time: 7- 9 p.m.



MONDAY

Sept. 28

2020 Tailgate Recipe Contest

Contact: Lynn Miller
lynnmiller@ferris.edu
Location: Online
Time: 8 a.m.

Ferris Pride at HOME Contest

Contact: Ben Withey
benjaminwithey@ferris.edu
Location: Online
Time: 8 a.m.



For more events, check out calendar.ferris.edu

Fall Word Search

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

- HALLOWEEN
- SWEATERS
- RAKE
- LEAVES
- SPOOKY SEASON
- HAY RIDES
- PUMPKINS
- PIE
- SCARECROW
- BATS
- WEB
- BOO
- CHILLY
- HOT COCOA
- WITCHES
- HARVEST
- BONFIRES
- TURKEY
- SPIDERS
- AUTUMN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1465370/>

Something good coming out of COVID-19

Students making the best out of staying home

Matthew Miller
Lifestyles Reporter

Sometimes life might look gloomy with COVID-19 wreaking havoc across campus, but that's only if you let it.

There are still a variety of things that you can do at Ferris while following social distancing guidelines and wearing a mask. Whether you decide to take this semester and use it as a springboard to stay ahead of classes or spend time playing video games in your dorm, people are still finding fun and stimulating things to do.

Ferris freshman Plastic Engineering major Haley Dobbyn said that during the peak of COVID-19, she spent most of her time at home following the social distancing guidelines. She spent spare time reading.



Haley Dobbyn

"Here at Ferris, though, I do try to spend as much time outside as I can," Dobbyn said. "I do spend time with a close group of my friends that I estab-

lished at the beginning of the year."

Dobbyn said that she likes to spend her time now working on homework and going to get food. She also said that she didn't pick up any new hobbies but is happy to be with friends and have people to talk to with everything going on.

Some people were lucky enough to stay working during COVID-19. Many student workers are still working for Ferris during this time. Ferris employee Nicholas Williams says that he spends most of his time playing video games at his house or working for the theater at Ferris.



Nicholas Williams

"I work in the theater for Bob Cardana. I help build the set, get everything set up and then clean off the set," Williams said.

Williams said the theater is putting on a show called Theory of Relativity. They are going to be shooting it like a TV show, scene for scene, and then send it off for editing. They have not yet met in person but are meeting over Zoom as of right now.

Many Ferris students didn't know how this year was going to play out with classes being online. This has been a blessing and a curse for some people.

"During COVID-19, going to college I thought would be kind of a 'I'm going to have fun on campus, I'm going to be doing a bunch of things,' but it turns out that I am coming home every weekend," Ferris Sophomore Taylor Whelpley said.



Taylor Whelpley

Whelpley said that she spends her time with her boyfriend and getting her home life together. She has all of her classes online and doesn't spend a lot of time on campus because of it.

She said that she likes her online classes because she doesn't have to travel to class, but it is harder to learn.

Campus may not seem as upbeat and as packed as it has been in years past. The freshman class of 2020 may never know the struggle of finding a table in the Quad Café for another year. That shouldn't stop anyone from picking up a new hobby or finding things to do during "Coronacation."

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SPORTS

Brendan Sanders | Sports Editor | sandeb16@ferris.edu

Acknowledge the movement

Ferris basketball players believe taking a stand belongs in sports

Austin Arquette
Sports Reporter

As social injustice movements continue to dominate conversation, two Ferris men's basketball players have opened up about their opinions on the NBA's approach.

As the NBA moves through the playoffs, they have been engaging in the social justice movement led by their players. Two Ferris basketball players approve of the organization letting their players speak out on the social injustice they believe is taking place in the world today.

Ferris sophomore point guard Jeremiah Washington said that he likes the moves the NBA has made. Deng Reng who plays the wing said that when some NBA players voted on the idea to put social injustice terms on the back of their jerseys it



Jeremiah Washington

was a way for them to use their voices without saying much. "It is a way for players to show the world how they feel about certain things going on," Washington said. "I thought it was a good idea because the NBA worldwide has a big fan base and for their favorite players to have these messages on their back was a smart way to show the world that there needs to be change."

The NBA allowed their players to change the names on the back of their jerseys and they approved 29 social justice statements for players to wear. Out of the 350 NBA players listed on rosters, 300 players wore

social injustice messages on the back of their jerseys. Reng believes it was a brilliant idea and the message it gave was clear.

If given the opportunity to use social injustice terms on Ferris jerseys, Reng would be all for it. He believes it would allow players to express their thoughts on the current worldwide issue by not saying much, and instead, letting the jerseys speak for themselves.

"As an athlete, I think it would still be good to continue letting people know that we're not going to stop using our voices," Reng said. "This movement is not done, and we need to bring world peace to

make this country a better place."

Both Reng and Washington liked how players were able to choose from 29 different messages and show the world their point of view on the matter. Washington said that the name changes were seen worldwide and that it made a lot of people think about the movement.

"Nobody would ever know what it feels like to be a black man walking down the street with your hoodie on and getting pulled over because to some people the stereotype is all black people are 'bad' or 'gang members' which is not true," Washington said. "Automatically they assume you're a bad guy and that you're a threat to society and that needs to change. There's a variety of black young women and males who are excelling in different organizations and athletics.

"If we all come together as one, I think the world would be a much better place."

Both Washington and Reng feel at home at Ferris and can freely express themselves on and off the court while they attend school. The pair of sophomores feel that no matter the situation, they can talk to the coaches and staff members of the athletics department.

However, regardless of how comfortable they feel about being vocal, they also know that at the end of the day there are some people with different opinions and perspectives on this specific topic.

Recently, Reng has experienced a lot of racial slurs/comments whether on social media or first-hand and in-person.

"No matter what you say there will always be some people who will turn their back on you," Reng said.

Amidst everything, the two young men have taken interest in NBA players who

they have admired during the movements. Washington looks to the Portland Trailblazers point guard Damian Lillard, who has "how many more" on his jersey. Reng said that Denver Nuggets point guard Jamal Murray has influenced him in one way in particular. After Murray scored 50 points in an elimination game, he thanked his shoes which had an image of George Floyd on one shoe and Breonna Taylor on the other.

Reng thought it was moving when Murray talked about how those shoes were a symbol to keep fighting all around the world and that it gave him life.

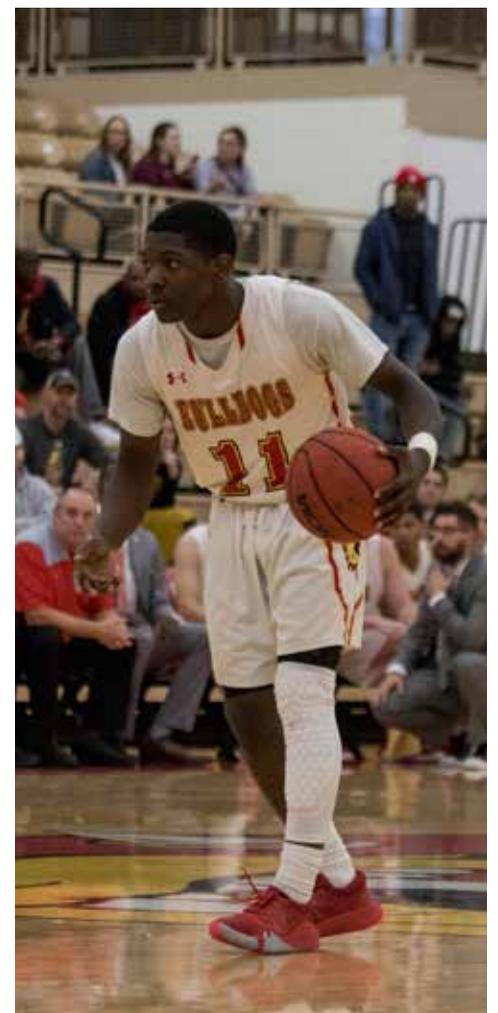
"It was definitely something that meant a lot to me, because one day I dream of being in his shoes and allowing my game speak to topics like these," Reng said.



Graphic by: Charlie Zitta | Production Assistant



Ferris sophomore wing Deng Reng.



Ferris sophomore point guard Jeremiah Washington.

Torch File Photo

Torch File Photo

Making his free time Wirth-while

Runner uses time without sports to prepare for his goal of broadcasting

Brody Keiser
Sports Reporter

Life is different now, but that does not mean it has to be worse.

Ferris cross country and track sophomore Brandon Wirth knows this to be true. Despite not having track or cross country to compete in, Wirth enjoyed his time during the COVID-19 shutdown.

“Running is my favorite sport and I really miss competing. I miss being out on the course or track and competing with my teammates,” Wirth said. “It’s really just trying to keep a positive mindset.”

That positive mindset was exactly what the sophomore runner had through the difficult months without competition.

It would have been easy for Wirth to focus on the negatives of not running competitively during the lockdown, but instead, he chose to make the most of his time and seize an opportunity.

“I have that competitive nature when it comes to athletics,” Wirth said. “Once that was taken away, it gave me a chance to do something else. Why would I mope about this time or wish sports were still there when I could use it as an opportunity to take time and focus on my career path?”



Brandon Wirth

Intending to become a play-by-play broadcaster, Wirth thought about ways he could prepare himself for a career as an announcer. It happened that Wirth and his friend, Joe Nagy, found an opportunity through Bulldog Radio to start a sports podcast.

“Joe and I wanted to start our own sports podcast,” Wirth said. “It’s a really cool experience to do some of the things that I’ve always wanted to try out. The podcast allows me to analyze sports and helps me talk about sports. These are the skills I’ll have to learn to be successful to do play-by-play. The podcast helps me learn the basic skills to be a good broadcaster, how to edit my own audio, and Joe and I have a blast.”

Wirth loved that he could give people content during the stay-at-home order. Despite the difficulties of producing content away from Bulldog Radio’s recording studio at Ferris, Wirth and Nagy persevered, putting out weekly content on their podcast.

Wirth also teamed up with his best friend from high school, Hunter Morrison, to start a YouTube channel, creating family-friendly sports content. Inspired by the popular sports videos produced by Dude Perfect on YouTube, Wirth and Morrison went to work creating sports content of their own.

“Around winter break last year, we decided to try it out,” Wirth said. “We wanted to see what we could do with it, so we made a couple of videos snowboarding and some trick shot stuff. People liked it, so we wanted to keep going. We’ve gotten over 100 subscribers in the past seven months which has been sweet.”

The team amped up their production efforts during the lockdown, spending more time putting out content. Wirth was thankful for the support his videos received, but he was more excited to know that he provided entertainment for people during the difficult months of quarantine.

“We saw a really good opportunity to have fun and give everybody something to watch because a lot of sports were shut down,” Wirth said. “We figured we could really help ourselves and other people by giving them something to watch.”

Podcasting and making YouTube videos are time-consuming activities, but Wirth is a smart, determined, and passionate person. He finds a way to balance his school and athletic commitment with his career-focused podcasting and YouTube video creation.

“We’re not in the position where we need to force ourselves to make content and have it take over our schoolwork or our training,” Wirth said. “I feel like it’s a really good thing how we utilize our time. We’re not worrying about content so much that that’s coming first. We know that being a student-athlete is why we’re in college

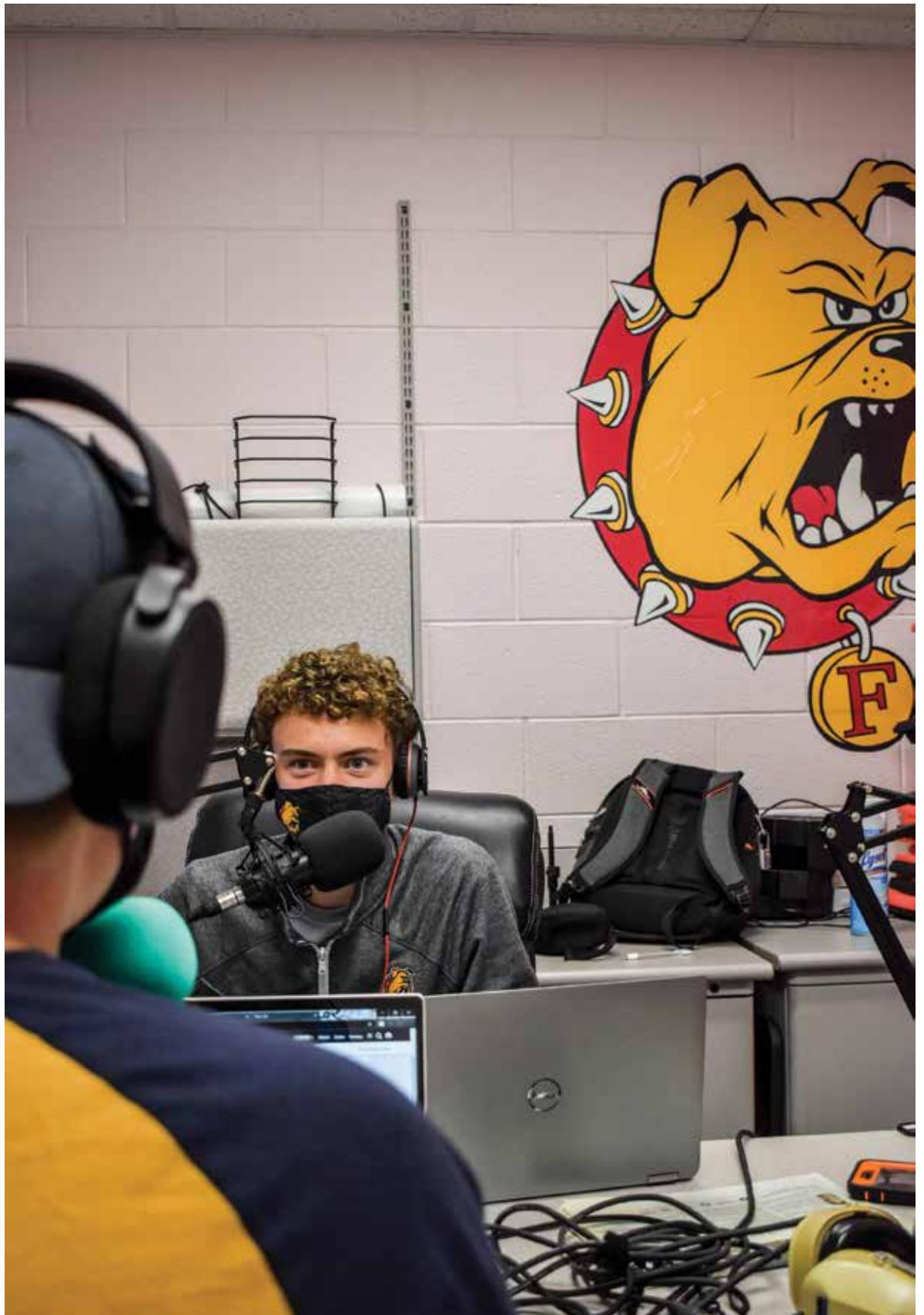


Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief

Brandon Wirth records another episode of “The MVSP” Podcast with his co-host, Joe Nagy.

and that’s most important.”

While podcasting and making YouTube videos are great, Wirth does not believe that his career lies with either of those activities. He uses both as entertainment and enjoyment for himself and a way to train for his goal of being a broadcaster.

A three-sport athlete in high school, Wirth often longed for competition during the lockdown. However, he was thankful for both YouTube and podcasting as ways to help him get through the difficult months where he was stuck at home.

“I had something to look forward to every week,” Wirth said. “It’s really been a blessing. It’s a new experience that I’ve learned through and I’ve been able to capitalize on the opportunities I’ve been given and help myself and other people. I’ve been able to make the best of what I

had.”

Wirth continued to train in his downtime but also found enjoyment on the golf course and spending time with friends in a socially distanced setting. Over lockdown, he started fishing, disc golfing, and biking.

“Surrounding yourself with your hobbies is big so you have enjoyment so you’re not thinking about just running all the time. That way, you’ll have things to look forward to,” Wirth said.

It was very easy for many people to focus on the negative during the months in lockdown. Life was different, the world changed, and things still are not back to normal. But change can be a good thing. It presents opportunities; those opportunities need to be seized. Brandon Wirth seized his and will forever be thankful.

CAPTAIN DOUGIE

Senior forward Liam MacDougall named team captain for Bulldogs



Torch File Photo

MacDougall will try to lead the Bulldogs to a successful season

Brendan Sanders
Sports Editor

Even with the season being delayed, hockey is still making sure to give their top players important accolades.

Senior forward Liam MacDougall was named team captain for the 2020-21 season, with a press release coming out Sept. 11, making MacDougall one in a long line of Ferris hockey team captains.

Ferris head hockey coach Bob Daniels had many reasons for naming MacDougall team captain for the season.

"We spoke to a lot of our returning players and graduating seniors from last year and kind of picked their brains," Daniels said. "Then as a staff, we got together and talked about what we were seeing in the development of Liam. He's come a long way from being a wide-eyed freshman. We've seen the maturity in Liam. One of the things we look for is the willingness to speak out when they see something, bringing things to the attention of coaches, things that we could do differently."



Bob Daniels

MacDougall was excited to find out about his appointment.

"It's just a really huge honor to be the captain," MacDougall said. "Hopefully, I can lead by example and we can accomplish a lot this year."

It's been a wild year for MacDougall. Born and raised in Ontario, Canada, he had been visit-

ing home when the border closed between the United States and Canada. This left him unable to retrieve much of his hockey gear. Instead, he had to focus on rollerblading as a way to practice while all the rinks were closed.

Last season, MacDougall finished tied for fourth on the team in points and third in assists behind Jake Willets, Marshall Moise, Nate Kallen, and Blake Evennou. He is one of four seniors, along with forwards Marshall Moise, Coale Norris and Lucas Finner.

The previous captain for the Bulldogs was Nate Kallen, who has gone on to join the Maine Mariners of the ECHL after being named to the Ferris State Hockey All-Decade team.

MacDougall has a list of goals that he wants to achieve in his final year as a Bulldog.

"We definitely want to improve from the last two seasons, which have not been what Ferris State hockey has been used to," MacDougall said. "We want to compete in the WCHA playoffs in what is its last year of existence. I'm one of four seniors so we want to be good in our last season in town. We're focusing on one thing at a time, but we have our eye on the playoffs."

With the season being delayed, there is little known about what the season will entail or when it will begin. With MacDougall as the team leader, the Bulldogs can hopefully take the next step and compete for the WCHA.



Liam MacDougall

Hockey season in question with division-wide delay

WCHA hockey season delays season from original October start

Brendan Sanders
Sports Editor

In an unsurprising announcement, Ferris State hockey has joined the ranks of football, women's soccer, and other sports in seeing their seasons delayed.

On Sept. 10, the WCHA announced that Division I college hockey, in general, would delay the start of their season, pushing it back from the initial start date of Oct. 3.

According to Coach Bob Daniels, the move was expected, leaving the team with little surprise when the announcement was finally made by the WCHA.

"I think they were pretty well prepared for it; I don't think it gave them a surprise," Daniels said. "You could kind of see it heading that way with the delay to the start of football and the GLIAC delaying all sports. All that was done before the announcement."

This sentiment was shared by sophomore defenseman Brendan Rons who said that the entire team was remaining flexible throughout the whole situation.

"I think everyone is just going with the flow," Rons said. "This has been going on since last spring break. It's been kind of crazy, what's going on in the whole world. Everyone knows it's just kind of out of our control. Everyone's just trying to stay ready the best we can."

The Bulldogs have been increasing team activities over the last week, increasing more on-ice activities through the detailed strategy the athletic department put forth. The team is also strategizing to get activities restarted.

"We're in a four-phase program that the athletic department has put forward," Daniels said. "Phase one was where we did nothing for two weeks, get everyone here and get them tested. Now we're at phase two where we're working in small groups of like nine kids. The next phase for us would be introducing pucks onto the ice because right now we're just on the ice doing conditioning. After that, we'll try to integrate the whole team."

The unique change of workouts has finally allowed for the athletes to do non-contact drills, something that Rons thought was good for everyone returning with varying levels of conditioning.

"Workouts this week have been going good," Rons said. "Everyone's just been trying to get back into shape after being in such weird situations over the summer. Guys didn't have access to facilities such as rinks and gyms. The coaching staff wanted to ease into the workouts, just trying to get back into it."

The focus for the team was not what was happening on the ice, but off it instead, citing the need to stay safe from the COVID-19 virus.

"Our job right now is to use our head and not expose the team or anyone else to the virus, so we want to focus," Daniels said. "We appreciate the fact really that the decisions that were made were not to harm anyone, the decisions were made with the student's best interest in mind along with the fans and the staff with the safety and precautions that are necessary."

There isn't a lot of certainty about when the season will get started but Daniels is hoping for some time in December. He understands that this may not be possible, though.

"Two words we throw around a lot is that you have to be fluid and you have to be flexible," Daniels said.

What's more important than flexibility is the ability to stay stringent on the COVID-19 protocols and recommendations. With athletes needing to be smart with their actions, one wrong move could put their teams' respective season in jeopardy.

"What I think is important not just for our team for all the athletes is what they do away from the field because you can catch it anywhere, so you've got to use your head, avoid large gatherings, those types of things," Daniels said. "We asked our players to use a lot of common sense, we're all in this together."

Be sure to stay tuned, as the new 2020-21 league schedule and details regarding the WCHA postseason tournament will be announced later this fall.

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Athletics updates!

Kicking off team activities

FERRIS FOOTBALL ALUMNI NFL STATS

Bulldog soccer looks forward to opening up practice

Brendan Sanders
Sports Editor

The toughest of times have allowed for many teams to build up their morale even with the lack of a season.

The women's soccer team has been one of the many teams affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, but they have not let that stop them from building team chemistry over the course of the year.

Coach Greg Henson, entering his second season at the helm of the Bulldogs women's soccer team, has found ways of connecting with the team where the contact came virtually.



Greg Henson

"Team bonding is always vital to the success of any team or program," Henson said. "We've been making the best of it through Zoom meetings but anytime we have the opportunity to get together in person is so much better."

The Bulldogs soccer team is

coming off a season where they went 13-5-2 and made an appearance in the semi-finals of the GLIAC championship, where they lost to Grand Valley State University 3-0.

Henson was happy that the team could start practice and looks forward to the increase of momentum surrounding the program.

"We have definitely seen a spark and energy boost from our players this week. It's been huge that we are now able to get together for strength and conditioning workouts," Henson said. "With the season postponed until the spring, we know we will not have games to prepare for and our current focus is on individual player growth and development."

The main goal for the team remains the same no matter if they are playing in the fall or the spring: a goal that women's soccer has yet to accomplish in their history.

"Our team goals remain the same, competing to win GLIAC Championships," Henson said.

There are no current announcements on what the prospects for a spring season will consist of.



CLEVELAND BROWNS
Tavierre Thomas, Cornerback
9 tackles



MIAMI DOLPHINS
Zach Sieler, Defensive End
1 tackle



GREEN BAY PACKERS
Malik Taylor, Wide Receiver
15 snaps

Who to put in your lineup for Week 3

Get your Fantasy Football advice every week from Brody Keiser and Austin Arquette

Football is back. Granted, it has been back for two weeks. The gap between NFL seasons always seems long, but this year seemed longer with the total absence of all sports for a few months. Thankfully, our wait is over, and the NFL has returned.

With the return of the NFL comes the return of something just as exciting - fantasy football. If you are anything like us, fantasy football is an exhilarating, competitive, and fun (albeit incredibly frustrating) activity that enhances the NFL watching experience.

Fantasy football is easy, right? All you have to do is put the right players into your starting lineup and let them do the rest. As any avid fantasy player knows, that is simply not the case. Deciding to start or sit a player can be infuriating. In this new weekly series, we will choose two players from the same position and make our cases for which players we believe should be in your starting lineup.

In each new edition of the Torch, we will run an updated tally count of which of our players scored the best in ESPN standard scoring PPR formats. After each argument for our players, we will also each list two players whom we believe will "ball out" and two players whom we believe will "flop" to further aid you in your quest for fantasy stardom.



Brody Keiser
Torch Reporter



Austin Arquette
Torch Reporter

This week, we will pit Mark Ingram against Adrian Peterson. Both are currently the RB1 of a committee approach on their respective teams.

Week 3 of NFL action pits John Harbaugh and his Baltimore Ravens against the Kansas City Chiefs. This is a matchup that Mark Ingram will thrive in.

The way to beat the Chiefs is to put the ball on the ground and run right at them. It keeps Patrick Mahomes and the high-powered Kansas City offense on the sidelines as long as possible. Last year, the Ravens pounded the running game against Kansas City, and Ingram found paydirt three times. I expect high volume from the Ravens starter, even if rookie J.K. Dobbins splits snaps. Both players will get enough work to be fantasy relevant.

Adrian Peterson just keeps cruising and has established himself as the frontrunner in the Lions backfield. However, the Lions face a very talented and high-powered Cardinal offense. Without a clear path to work in obvious passing down situations, Peterson could be on the fast track out of the game. He simply will not handle a large snap count if the Lions face a large deficit and are forced to throw the ball.

Kyler Murray can move the football and score, and I expect the Cardinals to pour it on the Lions below-average defense, forcing Matthew Stafford to throw to keep up. When that happens, Peterson will watch his team from the sidelines. I see a path to twelve carries for Peterson. If you are starting AP, you have to hope he falls into the endzone to give you any sort of fantasy production. On the other hand, Ingram has a clearer path to volume. I am all in on Ingram this week and out on AP.



Graphic by: Charlie Zitta | Production Assistant

While the argument has been which Lions running back do I start and whom can I trust in that backfield, the clear-cut answer is the veteran Adrian Peterson. In his first game with Detroit, he was fed the ball 15 times and nearly rushed for 93 yards. He also caught three passes for 21 yards. However, keep in mind this was against a talented Bears defense who shouldn't have been in the game if the Lions had played the second half of football.

I have a feeling that Mostert and the 49ers will get up quickly on the Giants and Mostert won't have a huge impact once that happens. I believe that AP will continue to contribute to his new team week in and week out whereas Mostert will be a streaky play each week.

I see Peterson having success on the ground against the Cardinals defense of which Mostert rushed on week one of the season for 56 yards. Peterson will make that look like child's play come week three. Mostert is a pass-catching running back where Peterson is the ground and pound goal-line back and should get in the end zone multiple times.

The Giants can play well at times; however, I feel as if the 49ers' defense will be too much for the Giants to bear. In turn, the 49ers will be playing cruise control football meaning Mostert won't get as many touches. Peterson on the other hand will continuously rack up yards and touchdowns this week in a rematch of last year's battle of the Lions and Cardinals. It will also be a vengeful game as Peterson was on the Cardinals roster before they cut him earlier this year. Lock in Adrian Peterson for week three and five Mostert a waive for a week.

Two others players to lock in your lineups:
DJ Chark
Dallas Goedert

One player to bench:
Nick Chubb

Two other players to lock in your lineups
Kenyan Drake
Mike Gesicki

One player to bench
David Johnson

OPINIONS

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EDITOR'S COLUMN: Women belong in sports

By: Cora Hall

Representation matters, and I have only fully been able to realize that in the past couple years.

I'm half Korean, and I never really thought about it until a year or so ago. My favorite Disney princess growing up was Mulan or Jasmine. The ones who looked most like me. I never really got why I chose them until I was older. But it was

half-Korean woman who has a seat at ESPN's "Around the Horn" and "Highly Questionable" and color commentates for the LA Rams. I sort of latched onto her as my role model ever since then.

It was just so crazy to me to see someone so similar to me in my career field, which is kind of sad when you think about it. I was surprised to see an Asian woman in a respected position in the sports world. I was so used to and conditioned to seeing men—mainly white—fill those spots on ESPN's shows growing up and commentating games I watched with my dad and brother.

Not only is Kimes an analyst, she's a damn good one. She's hilarious and her takes on the NFL are excellent because she loves football—seriously, another ESPN commentator said, "Her love of football is genuinely terrifying." Your passion can be seen in your work. That's the kind of journalist I aspire to be.

I didn't realize until this past year of following Kimes how much she inspires me. I didn't realize how much seeing another Korean woman excel in my field would push me to work harder and help me see my dreams as a possibility.

Being a woman in sports journalism isn't easy. I haven't had it incredibly hard, covering sports

at a mostly Division II university, but I always knew going in that people weren't going to excuse my mistakes as easily as my male counterparts. I would spend more time than I probably should have researching our football players' past performances and the competition that week just for my questions before going to a practice. I felt like I had to prove myself just so people would give me the time of day.

So many people will find any way they can to discredit women in sports and have an excuse to say that we don't belong there. They tell us we aren't qualified to cover something because we never played football, or because they don't like listening to women when watching sports.

A recent event that comes to mind is ESPN's Maria Taylor. She was one of many who cast ballots for the NBA Awards and she left Los Angeles Lakers' Anthony Davis off the All-NBA Team. Obviously, that's a hot take, but after it was pointed out by another writer, the

response from another media member was questioning why she had a vote. If one of her male counterparts had cast the same ballot, sure, he might have caught some criticism, but no one would be questioning why he had his job. Reporters and analysts have hot takes all the time, some wrong, some right. The only difference is when it's a woman, her credibility is questioned.

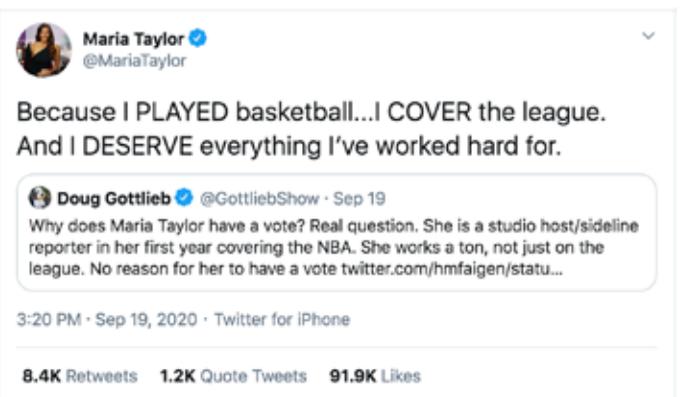
Women have to work harder in sports just for people not to question why they have a job. It's such an antiquated way of thinking and I can't wait for the day I don't feel like I have to be a step ahead of male reporters just to belong in sports.

Women belong in sports. Black women belong in sports. Asian women belong in sports. Latina women belong in sports. I want my daughter to grow up seeing women in sports just as much as men and growing up believing she belongs there. We shouldn't have to fight for our place because of our gender.

"Women have to work harder in sports just for people not to question why they have a job... I can't wait for the day I don't feel like I have to be a step ahead of male reporters just to belong in sports."

because I could see myself as them, a connection my brain made subconsciously as a kid.

Fast forward a few years and I started covering football at Ferris. I went to Twitter to expand my football knowledge and started following football analysts and journalists on Twitter. Even though I've watched college and NFL football my whole life, I was still nervous to cover a new sport. One day, ESPN football analyst Mina Kimes got retweeted into my timeline. It was probably a joke about a player or something funny, but I remember going to her profile and immediately following her. Kimes is a



TORCH CONFESSIONS



Ry Rodriguez
News Editor

Okay do not call me crazy, but I am the person who drives on the express way with my windows down. I do not care if I am going 78 down the freeway or 25 on back-roads. I love having the wind blow through the car.

It gives me a sense of calmness; don't judge me. I have not always been this way. I used to be normal where I would only have my windows down if I was going 60 mph or below but ever since

I took a long 56 hour road trip to South Dakota and back, I will never go back.

Not only does having the window down feel calming, it keeps me awake, it gives me an idea of how warm it is outside, and I can control the internal car temperature more than having the windows up.

To add, I am also one of the worst people on the planet; I will control the AUX on long car rides because my music keeps me awake. Yes most of the things in my car that I do are just ways to keep me awake. On small car rides sure I'll let my friends take

over the aux, but only because I know it is a short car ride and I don't have to listen to their music for long.

This usually includes some mumble rap, maybe terrible country, or some pop hits (in which I might add in some terrible music. I care for my ears I do not want to listen to WAP either by Cardi B or even the joke version by Kidz-Bop).

Oh and you can bet your sweet bippy that the windows will be down during that small drive, helps drown out the music.

On my long car rides going down the freeway at 78 mph blast-

ing either alternative, Broadway hits, 1970s top music, or any other music that sounds relatively better than now country.

So to sum up, I am a terrible driver when it comes to ear etiquette, blasting my music at 28-36 volume through my Dodge Dart speakers, and the windows fully down. Sorry, not sorry.

If you see me cruising down the freeway, feel free to yell at me, but sorry to say I will be blasting my Glass Animals, Jukebox The Ghost, and Auto Heard (yes I know you don't know any of those bands; they are indie/alternative) and I will not be able to hear you

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

Worst Car Etiquette

Justice undone

Ruth Bader Ginsburg's passing has brought up the issue of her replacement just weeks away from the election



Mason Grunow
News Reporter

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Supreme Court Justice of the United States, passed away on Friday, Sept. 18.

I want to start by making a few things clear – first, I wish for Justice Ginsburg to rest in peace. She passed from complications of pancreatic cancer, and while I think she should have retired earlier, that is not something I plan to litigate here.

Second, I am against voter shaming. I believe very strongly that whoever you support in an election is your decision alone, and the moment someone else can control how you vote, that vote is no longer yours. The Supreme Court is a critical institution and voting with that in mind is entirely reasonable. Choosing to vote independent, or even to abstain, is also a personal decision which nobody should attempt to shame you for – though I strongly believe you should vote if you can.

Third, I want to clearly state my own biases – I am politically left wing and independent – I do not consider myself to be either a Democrat or a Republican, and I have many criticisms of both of the major parties in the United States. I shape my views mostly on policies and records, but Justice Ginsburg's record is a separate issue. I want to talk about what happens next – who replaces her, and when?

President Trump has signaled two potential replacements earlier this month, with Senators Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Ted Cruz of Texas as names to remember. Now, we have confirmation that he plans to nominate somebody to fill the vacancy. Mitch McConnell, the Senate Majority Leader, plans to do everything he can to confirm the President's nominee as well – all before the election, landing the court at a 6-3 conservative majority.

Merrick Garland would probably like to have a word with us all right about now.

As a refresher, Garland was President Obama's Supreme Court nominee in 2016, and he was nominated to replace Justice Antonin Scalia. Garland, however, never received a vote on the Senate floor. Senate Republicans argued that confirming a Supreme Court Justice during an election year would not be fair to voters – let the election conclude, and the victor can appoint their preferred Justice. Now, the Senate Republicans have made a swift heel-turn to throw principle out of the window in order to grab power. This move could have lasting implications for decades to come

TORCH POLL RESULTS

Should Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Supreme Court seat be replaced before the election?

74 Votes

YES	31%
NO	69%

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– likely including overturning Roe v. Wade and other critical decisions that would have dramatic impacts on people's lives and livelihoods.

In law, there is a concept called precedent. Put simply, precedent means that past decisions should apply to relevant future challenges. What happened here is that Senator McConnell has established a precedent of not confirming Justices in an election year - but now he is tearing that decision to shreds. Senator McConnell is a man with no guiding principles, which is hardly surprising for a man who calls himself the Grim Reaper. He is emblematic of the partisan divide in the United States, and he is both symptom and disease when it comes to Washington corruption. Now, due to political convenience, he plans to shift the

balance of the Supreme Court for decades to come.

The Supreme Court was supposed to be the sole apolitical institution in the United States. For decades, it was carefully crafted of counterbalanced forces – four liberal, four conservative, and one moderate swing vote. By no means was the Court a perfect entity – yet for all of the Court's problems, the most significant and relevant right now being lifetime appointments, it at least was trusted to act in our best interests.

Now, like all institutions before it, the Supreme Court has been fatally compromised.

You set the terms, Mitch. Now, stick to your word, and leave Justice Ginsburg's seat vacant until after Inauguration.

GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

*Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.
Cora Hall | Editor-in-Chief | Email: hallc36@ferris.edu*

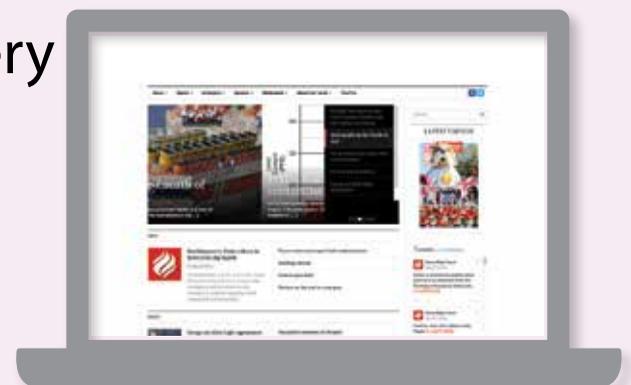
1. Think of a topic that you feel strongly about.
2. Write out your thoughts in a coherent and respectful manner.
3. Include a headshot and some information about yourself (location, age, etc.).
4. Email your opinion to the editor for a chance to have your work published in our next issue!

Ferris State Torch Grab a paper every Wednesday



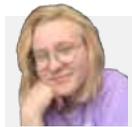
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#CancelNetflix | *Cuties is enabling pedophilia and religious discrimination*



Kaylin Johnson
Managing Copy Editor

Have you cancelled Netflix yet?

I admit, I hesitated at first, rolling my eyes and assuming this was another political issue to take a side on. In reality though, this is not about politics. It's not about your beliefs.

What it is about is keeping children safe.

If you don't know what I'm talking about, let me tell you the story of Cuties.

On Sept. 9, Netflix added a movie called Cuties to their catalog. Even at first glance, this movie looks problematic. The photo accompanying the description shows four 11-year-old girls in suggestive dance poses wearing some needlessly skimpy costumes.

Some further research into the movie shows that this movie contains sexual content of the girls, who are, by the way, played by actual 11-year-olds.

Now, some people have decided that the movie isn't being judged fairly. They say this movie poster is not representative of the actual storyline. But how can you look for positives in a movie about young girls twerking out of their "conservative cultures"?

Yes. This movie is about twerking. 11-year-olds twerking.

I know this is not the true theme of the movie, but it is a large part of it. Many people

are viewing this movie as a way a girl rebels against her conservative family traditions. Even if we're not talking about the pedophilia aspect (which, trust me, we will get to) this movie is still extremely insensitive to the Muslim culture which they portray as oppressive.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is the United States' largest Muslim civil rights group. Only days ago, on Sept. 15 they called for Netflix to remove Cuties due to the stereotypical way it depicts the Islamic religion.

Netflix itself doesn't seem to have commented on this aspect but as for the sexualization of children, they said "Cuties is a social commentary against the sexualization of young children."

The national director of CAIR expressed my opinion on this best when he said, "a film cannot criticize the abuse of children while abusing children."

Los Angeles Times columnist, Mary McNamara, says "Cuties is not about a girl coming to terms with her sexuality; sexuality doesn't factor into any of her actions." But how can this be true when a look at the parent guide on IMDB shows 15 occurrences of sex and nudity in the movie?

One particularly horrifying example that stood out to me is the statement "frequent close up/slow shots of underage girls' midsections, crotch, buttocks, while dancing provocatively."

These children are put in clothes which leave basically



Netflix Promotional photo

Netflix released this photo after controversy started surrounding the suggestive poses and clothing in the original poster.

nothing to the imagination in an internationally famous (or infamous) movie. How can anyone be supporting that? I don't care if it's meant to be a statement on oversexualization. This is oversexualization.

Though there is no actual child nudity within this film (a point which there has been much confusion over), there are many implications of child nudity. In one scene, a girl even takes a picture of her vagina and publishes it online.

Is that okay?
Even if they are not showing

any nudity, I think the scene gets too close to the sexuality of an 11-year-old. The camera shows her taking her jeans and underwear off and spreading her legs.

I will say I understand the intention behind the film, but in creating this movie young children were sexualized. To create a statement against something, you can't be a participant in the problem.

Either way, this film has got people thinking. One thing we should all agree on is that we need to protect children. There

is a problem today with oversexualization which has a hand in child sex trafficking. We all need to fight against this, and I feel that this film really missed the mark.

We need to come to a consensus as a culture about how to take a stand against pedophilia and child pornography without exploiting more children in the process.

For now, I'm cancelling Netflix and I'm urging you all to do the same.

Getting tested isn't your secret to keep



Marissa Russell
Lifestyles Editor
Opinions Editor

Do you have a fever? What about a cough? Are foods tasting different or you can't smell as good? If you have any of these symptoms, GO GET TESTED! Okay now that you have done that tell everyone you've been in contact recently so they can be careful with who they come in contact with.

Just because we are all adults now and can finally do whatever we want, within reason, it doesn't mean we should make reckless decisions simply because we can. Peoples lives are at stake and most of the people in Michigan care more about their "rights". No matter what you think about this virus there are people that can be gravely affected by it so you should try and take them into consideration.

On a day to day basis you have

no clue how much your actions can affect others. It doesn't hurt to just send out a text and warn people about the possibility that they could have this virus. You shouldn't feel ashamed about testing positive, unless you got it from being out partying and making uneducated decisions.

Even if you think it doesn't affect you because you're not high risk doesn't mean your actions won't affect others. Say your roommate has a grandparent with COPD and they like to visit them on the weekends but you have a cough and a temperature so you go get tested. Send them a quick text just to warn them so they don't spread it to their grandparent who could have fatal repercussions.

Even if your roommates and friends don't have people in their life that are high risk they do still have things going on in their lives that they would like still do. But if you don't communicate with them then they will go to weddings, funerals,

classes, etc. and spread it around without even knowing it.

This is just like getting an STD test. If you test positive, or even have any suspicions about being positive, you need to tell people you have sexual contact with so they can prepare themselves and not spread it around. There's a lot of people who are spreading this virus around because people aren't coming forward and warning others about their tests.

