



The Ferris State Torch

NINETY YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of April 7 - 13, 2021

www.fsutorch.com

Ferris hosting vaccination clinic

Over 2,000 COVID-19 vaccines secured from health department for students, faculty and staff

Rebecca VanderKooi
News Reporter

Ferris officially opened a COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Wink Arena on campus on Monday, April 5, available to members of the university community.

Joy Pulsifer, Dean of Student Life, explained that the University has received 2,490 first dose vaccines for students, faculty, staff and other campus community members. The vaccine clinics will take place inside the Jim Wink Arena Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinics will begin on Monday, April 5.

"We plan to vaccinate 14 people every 10 minutes, 84 people per hour and 588 people per day using seven stations," the email from Pulsifer said.

Lindsay Barber is the Director of Ferris' Birkam Health Center and Personal Counseling Center. She has been instrumental in getting vaccines for the Ferris community.

"This is the first shot of a two-dose series so anyone who schedules an appointment for next week will automatically be signed up for that same time slot three weeks later," Barber said.



Photo by: Dylan Boden | Torch Photographer

Those who get their first dose with Ferris will automatically be scheduled for a second dose in three weeks

Barber further explained that back in the fall, the Birkam Center applied to be a vaccine distributor with the state and then in January was approved to receive the vaccine when it became available.

Barber noted that throughout the spring semester, there have

been weekly meetings with the District 10 Health Department in order to prepare to host a vaccine clinic when the vaccines became available. On Wednesday, when Birkam got word of the 2,490 Pfizer vaccines coming they knew the University was fully prepared.

"Birkam Health Center along with members of the College of Pharmacy, College of Health Professions and many other areas of campus immediately jumped to action and began to 'hit play' on the action plan we have spent all spring designing," Barber said.

Barber said Birkam and the university hope this will be the first of many vaccine clinics held on campus.

Michael Klepser is a pharmacy professor at Ferris who specializes in infectious diseases and point of care diagnostics. He's been involved with of COVID-19 testing and precautions on campus since the pandemic began.

He has seen some of the fear and apprehension surrounding getting the vaccines and hopes to dispel that.

"These vaccines are safe, they're effective. Even though there are some side effects, they're generally manageable and the side effects are just essentially those that indicate that the vaccine is effective," Klepser said.

To sign up for a vaccination appointment next week go to: <https://ferris.medicatconnect.com>. If you're interested in volunteering at the vaccination clinic, check out the sign-up genius page here: bit.ly/ferrisvaxvolunteer

Michigan AG partners with Ferris

Ferris cybersecurity students will be involved in investigating online threats

Jerry Gaytan
News Reporter

Attorney General Dana Nessel has announced a partnership with Ferris Center for Cybersecurity and Data Science.

Ferris CCDS has agreed to partner with Attorney General Nessel to investigate online threats, domestic terror and misinformation. According to a press release from the Department of Attorney General, the Attorney General regularly deals with investigations that involve cybersecurity and information technology issues.

"This partnership is designed to assist our elected leaders and officials from politicized lawsuits, threatening behavior on social media, consult on better ways to protect data, analyze data and conduct digital foren-

sic consultations as needed," Information security and intelligence professor Jason Otting said.

Ferris State is set apart from different universities in how they are the only accredited cybersecurity school in Michigan.

"The accreditation from agencies such as NSA, Department of Defense, ABET [and] CAE set Ferris apart from all other schools," Otting said. "Additionally, our forensic partnerships with Mobile and computer forensic software giants such as Magnet, Cellebrite, FEX [and] XRY set us apart from other universities that claim a digital forensic program."

The ISI program faculty at Ferris is very involved in their field of study as well as having vast experience before becoming educators. The faculty, according to the Attorney Gener-

als press release, consists of one member who works within the Michigan State Police Cyber Crime Unit, as well as two who are licensed professional investigators in the field of digital forensics. There is also a faculty member who has a role in the Michigan MIC3, which is the State of Michigan's Civilian Cyber Corp Organization.

"This is an open-ended partnership that we hope to continue for a long time past the current administration, because, as we know, digital crimes and the need for cybersecurity is not going anywhere," Otting said.

The ISI program at Ferris is led by Dr. Greg Gogolin, who was the initial source of both undergraduate and graduate degrees in ISI. According to Ferris' faculty page, the program is ranked in the top 25 nationally.

Gogolin is a Distinguished Professor and Fulbright Scholar (Universidad de Chile) and has taught in Europe, Asia and Latin America. He also has a legion of publications and has presented at several conferences and locations within the United States and internationally.

Ferris has recently been approved funding by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to build the Center for Virtual Learning in 2020. The building will consist of secured evidence rooms, examination rooms, presentation rooms and faraday rooms. This will be the only faraday room in the State of Michigan according to the Attorney Generals press release.

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NEWS

Noah Kurkjian | News Editor | kurkjin@ferris.edu

National Poetry Month with M.L. Liebler

Literature in person features internationally known Detroit poet

Jessica Oakes
News Reporter

Roughly two decades following the program's inception, Ferris will be celebrating National Poetry Month with a virtual Literature in Person.

Author, professor and literary arts activist M.L. Liebler will be doing a reading of his newly written work for LIP via Zoom on April 12.

"I've been to Ferris many times over the past few decades, and I've always enjoyed the students and audiences I've had there. I like to keep readings interesting and engaging. I plan to do just that," Liebler said.

Having written 15 books and chapbooks, Liebler is the recipient of many awards. His 2009 collection entitled "Wide Awake in Someone Else's Dream" earned him the Paterson Poetry Prize for Literary Excellence as well as The American Indie Book Award.

Liebler has received two Library of Michigan Notable Book Awards for his collections "Heaven was Detroit: From Jazz to Hip-hop and Beyond" and "I Want to Be Once." In the latter, Google Books notes that Liebler approaches current events with "a journalistic eye and a poet's response."

According to Ferris' creative writing coordinator Deirdre Fagan, Liebler's poetry is "deeply imbued with musical rhythms."

Liebler explained that he uses music in his work to make poetry feel inviting and accessible to everyone.

"I'm from a working class background, so I believe in poetry people can identify with and understand... Real words, real images from our everyday lives," Liebler said.

For 41 years, Liebler has been a professor of English, creative writing, American studies, labor studies and world literature at Wayne State University in Detroit. He is also the founding director of both The National Writer's Voice Project in Detroit and the Springfield Arts: Metro Detroit Writers Literary Arts Organization.

While LIP readings are scheduled all throughout the academic year, they are es-



Photo courtesy of M.L. Liebler

Detroit poet M.L. Liebler has received two Library of Michigan Notable Book Awards for two of his collections

pecially anticipated during April, National Poetry Month.

When asked about the importance of National Poetry Month, Liebler referred to poetry as "the bread of life."

"Poetry, like art, is part of our everyday life whether it be in music, film, tv or even various commercials," Liebler said. "It's what we offer each other on a birthday, at Christmas or even when someone passes away. It's in our church liturgies, it's in romance, break ups, and it's how we relate to each other in times of war & peace."

LIP aims to be a source of education and cultural enrichment for students. Readers and aspiring authors have a chance to encounter different voices and styles, as well as form connections with fellow creatives.

The LIP reading series was first organized by poet, fiction writer and English, Literature and World Languages faculty member Philip Sterling. Sterling served as the founding

coordinator of the event until his retirement in 2013.

Fagan is an author herself and has been the coordinator of LIP since 2015. She explained that every LIP event includes poetry readings and opportunities for the audience to ask poets questions about their work.

"Each poet offers different opportunities to celebrate poetry and poets and will bring their unique perspectives and experiences to their event," Fagan said.

She also believes that we are in the midst of an "exciting time for poetry" with young people as the driving force.

"As Amanda Gorman's inaugural poem and reading at the half-time show of the Super Bowl demonstrates, poetry is seeing a resurgence in popularity, especially among young people," Fagan said.

This is supported by statistics from the National Endowment for the Arts' 2017 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts

(SPPA). Between 2012 and 2017, poetry readership among 18-24 year olds has more than doubled. According to arts.gov, this spike in interest is often attributed to social media.

Fagan sees poetry as a deeply emotional art. To her, it is important to take this month as a time for learning and appreciation in regards to all of the many different styles of poetry.

"National Poetry Month is an opportunity to celebrate poetry in all its forms. It is an expression of every emotion in written and performed or read poetry," Fagan said.

M.L. Liebler's virtual event is open to anyone looking to celebrate National Poetry Month by expanding their linguistic horizons. Students may attend by clicking the Zoom link found on the ELWL Department Facebook page or Ferris event web calendar at 7 p.m. on April 12.



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!





THIS WEEK IN MICHIGAN NEWS

Catch up on news around the state

Noah Kurkjian & Brendan Sanders
News Editor, Sports Editor

Detroit protest updates

Legal observers filed suit in the U.S. District Court on Friday against Mayor Mike Duggan, the city of Detroit, Detroit Police Chief James Craig and Detroit officers, citing the use of excessive force during the protests downtown Detroit following the May 2020 death of George Floyd according to the Detroit Free Press.

Plaintiff Marie Reimers stated in the complaint that officers used pepper spray and tear gas and punched her while she was “lawfully engaged in permissive legal observer activity as sanctioned by Commander Todd Bettison of the Detroit Police Department.” The complaint stated this was in violation of her first and 14th amendment rights.

Other plaintiffs, Sara Habbo and Shannon Mceville had similar experiences. They are asking for \$75,000 in damages. Craig’s office denied to comment on this case. The mayor’s of-

fice could not be reached according to the Detroit Free Press.

Pandemic updates

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Friday that fewer people with antibodies and more people traveling and not wearing masks is contributing to the rise in high COVID-19 positivity rates in Michigan according to reports by the Detroit Free Press.

“We have followed the science. We have made the tough calls. It has not been easy. But (I’m) convinced it was absolutely the right thing to do,” she said while visiting a new mass vaccination clinic in Pontiac. “What we are seeing in terms of positivity rates now is concerning. There are a number of factors that are going into it.”

She also suggested that schools that had a spring break consider going virtual for a week or two afterwards to prevent spread from those who traveled.

Sports

Ann Arbor – The University of Michigan Wolverines saw their dream season come to an end on the men’s basketball side with a upset loss against the no. 11 seeded UCLA Bruins on Tuesday, March 30.

The Wolverines lost 51 – 49 after a last second shot by sophomore guard Franz Wagner ricocheted off the rim as time expired. The 49 points scored was the lowest output given by the Michigan offense on the season.

Freshman center Hunter Dickinson was the only Michigan player to score double digit points during the matchup, putting up 11 points to go along with two rebounds. Senior guard Chaundee Brown led the team in rebounds on the game with nine, while also scoring eight points.

UCLA only saw five players score points in the entire game. Sophomore guard Johnny Juzang was the star of the game, scoring over half of UCLA’s points in the game. He finished with 28 points to go along with two rebounds.

UCLA went on to lose in the Final Four against Gonzaga. They lost in overtime 93 – 90 after Freshman star Jalen Suggs hit a buzzer beater three to put Gonzaga in the finals.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

How we tell women’s stories matters

In Rachel Foulk’s bio for her guest column last issue, she was mistakenly listed as the director for the Museum of Sexist Objects, which is in Starr, not FLITE. Tracy Busch is the faculty lead for the museum.

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

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Akademос to take over Ferris' book sales

Bookstore renamed 'Ferris Outfitters' and will feature textbook buy backs in fall 2021

Becca Witkowski
Freelance Reporter

Students will now order their books online with more options after the contract between Ferris and Barnes and Noble expires at the end of June.

The online bookstore will provide students with more options for purchasing textbooks. In addition, the bookstore located in the University Center on campus will be renamed Ferris Outfitters. It will have many different items available for purchase.

"The contract with Barnes & Noble expires June 30, 2021," Ali Molnar, the project specialist in charge of the transition, said. "It was determined [best] to move books online and partner with Akademос to provide the University's online bookstore."

Akademос is an online bookstore designed to provide college students with affordable textbooks. The bookstore offers new, used, rented, and eBook formats for the textbooks. In addition, Akademос provides a guaranteed buyback rate at the time of purchase for textbooks. The store also has school supplies available for students to purchase.

The new bookstore also includes a marketplace for students to sell books to other students at their own set prices according to Molnar. Students will be able to list and purchase books year-round. The marketplace also includes other low-costs textbooks that could be "60 percent off list prices,"

The online bookstore will provide free shipping to Ferris and

KCAD campus stores beginning Aug. 16. Students wishing to ship their textbooks to their home address may do so at any time with free shipping at orders over \$49. However, books purchased on the marketplace are not included in the free shipping.

When Ferris was partnered with Barnes and Noble, students could still order their textbooks online. However, there were fewer options for buying books. There was also no marketplace for students to buy and sell books directly with other students.

Books sent to campus will still arrive at the store in the University Center. However, the store itself will be undergoing changes over the summer. Ferris Outfitters will be renovated and offer different products starting in August.

"The physical campus store will sell Ferris branded and non-branded apparel, gifts and home décor, snack and beverage convenience items, school supplies, office supplies, technology products, and household convenience items," Molnar said. "The store will close on July 1, 2021 for renovations and reopen in early August as Ferris Outfitters."

Students will be able to use Bulldog Bucks at the physical store when it reopens in August. There will also be an ecommerce site for the physical store. Both the links for the Akademос bookstore as well as the eCommerce site will be available on the Campus Store webpage. The online bookstore will be open for orders for the Fall 2021 semester starting July 26.



Photo by: Dylan Bowden | Torch Photographer

Ferris will be conducting their book sales online only starting in the fall of 2021.



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**HOSTED BY:
MARISSA RUSSELL, BRENDAN SANDERS &
NOAH KURKJIAN**

**SCAN THE SPOTIFY LINK TO
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LIFESTYLES

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

Taking initiative



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

Katelyn Berens enjoys volunteering because she enjoys helping people out. Due to all of her volunteering Berens received the Initiative 125 Service Award.

Students honored for active volunteering and serving in the community

Alyssa Hubbard
Lifestyles Reporter

Multiple Ferris students were honored for demonstrating the importance of helping local communities by dedicating over 125 hours of their time to volunteering and serving.

Every April, the university hosts the Torchbearer event where students and student organizations are recognized for their hard work and positive impacts made on the community throughout the year. One award given out to students is the Initiative 125 Service Award.

The Initiative 125 Service Award was created in 2009, as a celebration for the university's 125th birthday. It represents founder Woodbridge Ferris' commitment to service. Students who completed at least 125 service hours over the year are given this award.

One student recognized for her incredible acts of service is elementary education junior Lilian Gray, a 2020 Torchbearer Initiative 125 recipient.

Gray was an active volunteer during her freshman year. She volunteered as a mentor for robotics teams in fifth - 12th grade and helped with their competitions. Gray felt

inspired to actively volunteer because she enjoys encouraging the kids to pursue their interests in math, science, engineering and technology.

Volunteering and helping out the robotics team became very important to Gray. She has been involved with the robotics team since 2014 when she was in high school and continued to help out as an alumna.

"Once I figured out how rewarding it feels to volunteer, I wanted to help as much as I could. It doesn't take a lot of time to help others," Gray said.

She also said that receiving the Initiative 125 Service Award was an honor and one of her "biggest achievements."

Biology and pre-med senior Adam Kociba was another student who won the Initiative 125 Service Award in 2020.

Kociba has been an active volunteer since 2017. He has helped multiple organizations including the Ferris Honors Peer Mentor Program, Spectrum Health Big Rapids Hospital, the FSU COVID Clinic and Project Starburst.

"There is something inherently enjoyable about assisting others without expecting any reward," Kociba said. "It's good for the soul, so to speak."

Kociba was pleasantly surprised when he was honored at the Torchbearer event.

He thought it was nice that Ferris wanted to show appreciation for students who volunteer.

Hospitality management senior Katelyn Berens also received the Initiative 125 Service Award in 2020.

Berens mostly volunteers at Cranhill in Rodney, MI for Horsemanship Retreats and various events there. As a member of the Student Alumni Gold Club, she also helps with the annual Rake 'N' Run, Brutus the mascot handling events, alumni events and more. She also assists at the Mecosta County Animal Rescue Coalition.

"The reason that I volunteer is because I love to help those around me whether I know them or not," Berens said. "I know that taking a couple hours out of my week to volunteer somewhere for someone can make their entire day and make them feel so happy. It brings me so much joy to be able to help people out with something that they may not be able to do without people helping them."

Berens felt amazing when she received the Initiative 125 Service Award. However, she made it clear that she doesn't volunteer just to get an award. Berens uses her award as a reminder that what she does as she's volunteering means something to the peo-

ple she's helping.

Each of these honorable volunteers would like to inspire others to go out and serve the community in any way they can because of the valuable experiences it offers.

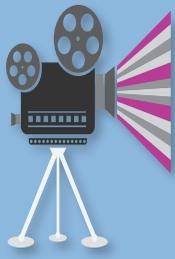
"I think we can all identify with the desire to help make the world a better place," Honors Advisor Cathy Bordeau said. "It's moving to work with other people to benefit our community."

Bordeau added that volunteering is an educational experience. It's a great way for students to meet people they wouldn't have before and gain skills. Students can also build their resume through volunteering.

Serving the community also promotes wellness and makes someone feel good.

"I would encourage [students] to find an organization that suits their major, then pick a day of the week and make it a habit to go [volunteer] each week for a few hours," Kociba said. "It'll quickly become an enjoyable part of your weekly routine."

Bulldog Connect and the You@Ferris app provide students with resources and information about different volunteer opportunities around Big Rapids and Mecosta County.



Media Minute

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

AJR released *New Orchestra* on March 26 and I was personally not really looking forward to it for the sole reason I feared it would disappoint me the way Neotheater did. I popped in my AirPods (which I always do for new music, I want to hear their stereo intentions) and 45 minutes later this could be the album for the summer.

Overture

Few artists I follow still do overtures and that is a major nerve I have with modern music. It delivers a great mashup of what's to come and AJR hands down does the best ones. I never skip them. There isn't a whole lot to say about it, it's just a beautiful preview of what's to come and this one didn't disappoint.

Bummerland

This is a very good first song. It tackles the feelings we've all be feeling lately, and even though it's message is seemingly a cry for human interaction, it's upbeat melody feels like it's trying to curb those feelings for three minutes. It also seeks to share a shred of positivity with the sprinklings of "you're only going up from here."

3 O'Clock Things

First and foremost, the backup vocals on this track just speak to my soul, they are just mixed so well and make me want to keep listening. As for the message, it pretty much picks up where *Bummerland* left off and discussed the last year in a song and again, felt like an almost 4-minute break. Finally, it is just a relatable ballad, we all experienced it and it makes it just that much more of a hook.

My Play

The somber melody of this song sets the stage for its lyrics so well. AJR seems to have one song on every album that tackles modern love and the hopelessness it can leave us feeling. I also like how they tackle how the relationships we observe as kids shapes and, let's be honest, warps our perception of a relationship. Out of all of the songs on this album, this one is probably my favorite because it tackles something we're all still trying to figure out.

Joe

I enjoyed this song so much, this played like top tier pettiness and I was honestly here for it. As I was listening, I was just like "you tell 'em!" and it felt like talking to a best friend about someone from high school. This one resonated with me so much, this was probably the "comfort food" track of the album to me. The melody was a tiny bit weak to me, I would have liked something a tiny bit punchier although it does pick up nicely at the end.

Adventure Is Out There

This was honestly a weaker track to me, just like Joe, I felt this deserved a little bit more zest in the melody. I liked the message, but it really felt like something that would be over a time lapse of one of those TikTok van life builds. It had a very strong chorus, but that alone wasn't enough to place high to me.

Bang!

Bang! Is obviously supposed to be the banger track for the album, but TikTok picked it up when it was a single, and by the time it was out on the album, I was already sick of it.

It is very catchy, and I feel the uncertainty of adulthood that they are going for, but it has a very repetitive melody that makes this one of those songs that is quickly tiring. It was originally one of my favorites, but the fact that it feels like it was designed for replayability really turned me off from it.

The Trick

This song just hit different, I feel like we could all relate to this as middle schoolers, this song just explains the insecurity a lot of us felt back then and I also love the backup vocals so much, again, great mixing. If I had to pick one song from the album to recommend listening to, it's probably this one.

Ordinaryish People

This played like the flagship song of the album, they brought in what I assume is an orchestra to do the instrumental and it sounds fantastic. As for the message, it is, again, relatable. It discusses how everyone sees us differently based on their own person and it just made me feel.

Humpty Dumpty

This has a good melody, but I think the true best part is the chorus. This is something I feel like scream singing in my shower. This song continues the mental health theme of the album, but I feel like it's probably the most relatable message from the album, but it falls into that trap of repetitiveness, I think the chorus, while it's great, was repeated one too many times as well.

World's Smallest Violin

This song is just so appealing to my cerebellum, honestly on first listen, I didn't even hear the actual lyrics because the melody is rock solid, the violin solos are beautiful, and this is probably the most vocally dynamic from the lead singer and it just plays so well. This is definitely a top three song of the album.

Way Less Sad

I like this song as a whole, it has a very dynamic intro and good lyrics, but I think this was made for the wrong genre. It reads too pop-like when I would expect this message to be delivered alongside a more somber melody, even if it was just the first minute. It could have a slick transition, but it just feels wrong to me.

Christmas in June

I had high hopes for the closing song of the album but this one feels like it falls a little flat. The melody is a bit flavorless for the group and it just plays like another coming of age type song and it just didn't grab me like the other songs. I won't skip it if it comes up, but it's not something I'm shushing others for and subsequently turning up.

Final thoughts

New Orchestra was a beautifully crafted return to form for AJR. It took the funky vibes from the melodies of *Living Room* and the pop grab of *The Click* and mixes them into ballads that everyone not only will enjoy but can relate to. I also appreciated that the group leaned into mental health situations for this album. It's been a rough year for everyone, and this album feel like a good escape without feeling too disconnected from reality. This has been playing on repeat since the drop and I could see it easily being the album for the summer.

Events calendar

WEDNESDAY

April 7

Environmental Care Projects

Contact: Stephanie Thomson
stephaniethomson@ferris.edu

Location: Big Rapids Area

Time: 3 p.m. Tuesday April 6 -
7 p.m. Friday April 9

Spring 2021 Career and Internship Fair - ALL MAJORS

Contact: Kathryn Thomas
kathrynthomas@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Humanocracy: Resilient Organization, Great Jobs, Zero Bureaucracy

Contact: Lynn Miller
lynnmiller@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

Time: 12 - 1 p.m.

First-Gen Wednesday Workshop - Mental Health Wellness

Contact: Dave McCall
davidmccall@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

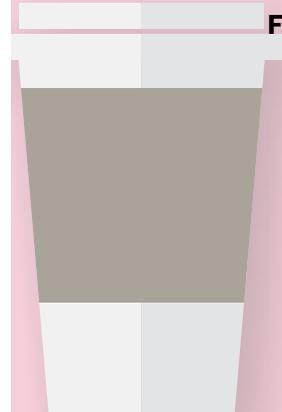
Time: 11 - 11:30 a.m.

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Coffee House

Contact: Sarah Doherty
SarahDoherty@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

Time: 4 - 6 p.m.



THURSDAY

April 8

Spring Book Club: Wisdom of the Animals

Contact: Christine Labby
labbyc@ferris.edu

Location: Zoom

Time: 12 - 1 p.m.

Swing into Spring: Tips and Tricks For Perfecting Your Golf Game

Contact: Lynn Miller
lynnmiller@ferris.edu

Time: 7 - 8 p.m.



FRIDAY

April 9

Virtual Study Abroad Workshop

Contact: Megan Hauser-Tran
MeganHauserTran@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

Time: 1 - 2 p.m.



TUESDAY

April 13

Test Anxiety

Contact: Karen Royster-James
(231) 591-3771

Location: Zoom

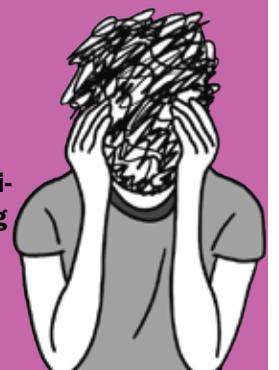
Time: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

FSU Student Government Association General Assembly Meeting

Contact: Allyson Faulkner
studentgovernment@ferris.edu

Location: Virtual

Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.



For more events, check out calendar.ferris.edu

Graphics made by Production Manager Charlie Zitta



Twists in friendship

Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief

With the weather warming up, Spring is coming back in full swing and BR Scoops opened its doors for the season on Thursday, April 1. Second year pharmacy students Elma Saljic (left) and McKenzie Sabin enjoyed their first cones of the season on Sunday, April 4.

Finding a friend in ROTC

The Ferris State ROTC program builds confidence and friendship

Kendall Rooks
Lifestyles Reporter

While most Ferris students are in school just to prepare for their future civilian jobs, Reserve Officer Training Corp. students are often participating in regular drills, extended summer training and trips to the armory.

The Ferris ROTC program consists of 34 students and teaches crucial leadership skills through classroom work, leadership labs and physical training exercises as part of their college curriculum. ROTC students remain in regular courses at Ferris in order to obtain degrees in various majors. Students participating in the program can be granted scholarships which cover all or part of tuition in return for active military service after graduation. Graduates are often commissioned as Army Second Lieutenants.

Military Science Professor Randy Wright was enlisted in the Army for twenty years before he retired and began teaching for the Ferris ROTC program. Wright believes that the ROTC program develops student's courage and personal strength.

"What we do is we focus on people that get really nervous and then we put them out front," Wright said. "Most people will get over their nerves the more times they talk in front of people. What we try to do is give people roles where they are forced to do stuff that's a little bit uncomfortable. It helps us internally as a person to get us over our fears."

Wright explained that students must apply and interview to enter the ROTC program and that only select students will receive the various scholarships offered. He said that as you advance through the ROTC program the labs become longer and the training becomes more

extensive.

Mechanical Engineering Technology freshman Sean Carl found that Ferris' ROTC program provided him with exactly what he was looking for after high school.

"I've been interested in wanting to serve since I was young, but I also wanted to go to college to pursue engineering, so [ROTC] is the best of both worlds," Carl said.

Carl found that the Ferris ROTC program also provided him with a support system that he was not expecting.

"You will get a lot of support, especially at Ferris. If you have a problem you can go to almost anybody and seek help. If you're struggling with work or with school it's a really good support system and you're also usually being supported with funds from the government so, it's a good thing."

Students in the ROTC program at Ferris see each other daily. Being that the program is so small students grow very close to each other throughout their years at Ferris.

Spending time around ROTC friends is one of heavy equipment sophomore Cole Flint's favorite parts of the program. Flint said that the ROTC program is a great group of people to be around all the time. They are constantly joking and having a good time.

"I really like that everyone there wants to be there. It's kind of unique because all throughout high school people don't want to be there or think it's stupid. Everyone in ROTC is there for a reason," Construction management freshman Cole Krisch said.

Krisch said that if anyone is interested in joining ROTC they should. He explained that the program is much less of a commitment than the army and can act as a practice for what it is really like. For more information about Ferris ROTC visit their College of Business homepage online.



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

Cole Flint enjoys spending time with friends in the ROTC program.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN: Yes, we care about women's basketball

By Cora Hall

If you weren't one of the millions of people who watched the NCAA women's basketball tournament over the last month, you really missed out.

There were so many fantastic games, and people across the country showed through TV ratings that yes, we do care about women's basketball.

The Sweet 16 matchup between Iowa and UConn drew 1.559 million viewers on ABC, and Baylor vs. Michigan drew 1.223 million viewers. The championship game that Stanford won over Arizona averaged 3.6 million viewers on ESPN and peaked at 5.3 million.

5.3 million.

And that was on ESPN. Imagine if the game had been on ABC at primetime.

I don't know what other proof one needs to be convinced that people will watch women's basketball if they are given the opportunity.

NBA games this season have averaged 1.06 million viewers across several cable networks. It's not a direct comparison, but it just shows the interest in women's basketball right now is higher than it's ever been and it's only going to grow.

The idea that women's basketball is boring and no one wants to watch it is completely false at this point, as well as wildly sexist. Anyone watching this tournament would tell you they were some of the most exciting

games of March. There's some serious, young talent in women's basketball right now. Players like Paige Bueckers, Aari McDonald, Sedona Prince, Caitlin Clark, Haley Jones and so many more are becoming household names.

Watching their level of play has been incredible, the women's game has seen huge developments. Sue Bird went on ESPN talking about Bueckers, saying that women's players in college now play a completely different game than when she was in college. She said it's likely because players now grew up watching players like Diana Taurasi and Steph Curry. Part of Bueckers popularity is due to her being just plain fun to watch. "To me... it's the swag. It's the confidence. She's cocky out there. I love it," Bird said on ESPN.

The competition level of the women's game is much more spread out now, it's not just UConn, Baylor and Tennessee anymore. There are so many good programs now and the competition as a whole has risen. And with it, so has the interest.

During Iowa vs. UConn game the interactions on Twitter with the #ncaaW hashtag skyrocketed. There were over 9,600 posts about the Elite eight matchup between UConn and Baylor during the game and the engagements with those posts doubled those of the men's games happening that night. Even LeBron James was tweeting about the last play of the

game when Baylor guard DiJonai Carrington was blatantly fouled by two UConn players on the would be game-winning shot.

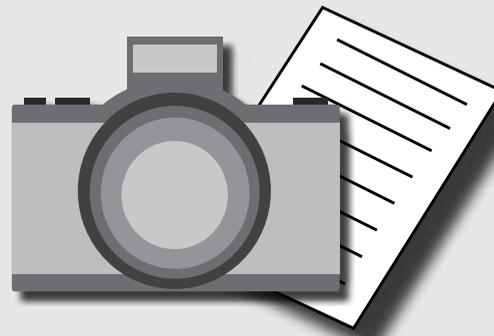
Can we please normalize this moving forward? Can regularly we have and promote conversations on women's basketball on Twitter, TV and ESPN? Women's basketball fans are some of the best out there, and they clearly showed it this March.

The NCAA needs to televise and promote the women's tournament the same way the men's tournament is. I love having my Twitter feed be all about the women's games. I have always loved March Madness, but this year I loved it even more, watching as many women's games as I could. They should be able to use the March Madness branding and get the same level of respect as the men's tournament.

This year has clearly shown what the NCAA thinks of its women's teams, and it's disgusting. They were treated as an afterthought, as if they didn't matter. Hopefully the backlash from this year results in real change moving forward.

As fans and viewers, though, we can't forget about women's basketball now that March Madness is over. Remember to watch them in the regular season next year, and until then, watch the WNBA this summer. Support women in basketball, you're in for a ride.

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3. include a headshot and some information about yourself (location, age, etc.).

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Game changer

NFL new proposed rule could alter the game we know



Austin Arquette
Sports Reporter

Over the time period of the offseason, many sports go into motions for new rules and hear proposals for adaptations to better their leagues.

In the NFL many proposals are voted on by the owners of each team and are also submitted this way to the organization. Of course, the teams notify their owners of rules and other things they would like to see changed and for the Kansas City Chiefs one rule stood out from their proposals.

The Chiefs proposed to amend the NFL's rule about jersey numbers. The rule the Chiefs are specifically interested in is to allow running backs, fullbacks, wide receivers, tight ends, linebackers, and defensive backs to wear any number from 1 - 49, and they could also wear any number from 80 - 89. The rule would change nothing for all other positions, such as quarterbacks who would still only wear 1 - 19 or offensive linemen who would still only wear 50 - 79. The proposed rule also mentions that linebackers would have the option of wearing 1 - 49, but doesn't mention if they can still wear 50 - 59.

The NFL rule as of now is that all players follow their position requirements such as:

- Quarterbacks, punters, and placekickers can wear numbers 1 - 19
- Wide receivers and tight ends can wear numbers 80 - 89 or 10 - 19 for wide receivers if 80 - 89 are otherwise assigned
- Running backs and defensive backs can wear numbers 20 - 49
- Centers can wear numbers 50 - 59 or 60 - 79 if 50 - 59 is unavailable
- Offensive guards and tackles can wear numbers 60 - 79
- Defensive lineman can wear numbers 60 - 79 or 90 - 99 if 60 - 79 is unavailable
- Linebackers can wear numbers 50 - 59 or 90 - 99 if 50 - 59 is unavailable

An example of the new rule would be that if San Francisco cornerback Richard Sherman wanted to wear number nine as he did at Stanford he would be allowed to switch from his current number, 25. Another example would be that Penn State linebacker and NFL draft hopeful Micah Parsons would be able to keep his number 11 as a rookie after the 2021 NFL draft. This rule would affect all 2021 rookies as well as current players.

After noise was spread about the proposed rule many athletes from the NFL took to Twitter to announce they were on board and want to see this happen.

Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Tyreek Hill said, "bring back 00."

Los Angeles Rams cornerback, Jalen Ramsey, and Los Angeles Chargers linebacker Kenneth Murray Jr. Also expressed their approval of the rule change on Twitter as both wanted their nicknames to resurface if they are allowed to wear new numbers.

If 75% of the teams agree to this new proposed rule will pass and look a lot more like the collegiate atmosphere. This rule change would allow players more options to claim a number on their backs that some haven't worn since college or high school. For some athletes, this is a big deal as they assign meanings and personalities to the numbers they wear.

Personally, I think this rule change would benefit the NFL, players, and fans all around. The new ruling would allow players to have more freedom and more expression of themselves so if I was an owner voting on this rule my decision is simply, I'd vote yes.

The way the rule comes off to me is that it will only help make the players and fans happier to keep their numbers from college or even high school that they have bonded with. From playing sports in my life I know first hand, some athletes choose their numbers for personal reasons and have deep connections devoted to their choices as well. If the NFL approves this rule change it will not only change the league but I feel it would only make players and fans happy.

Don't set us up to fail

Professors are paid to teach, not gatekeep information



Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

Professors that start their first day of class by saying something along the lines of "most of you won't pass my class", should not be professors.

As students, we are paying thousands of dollars a semester to attend classes and professors that teach like that make the cost an even harder pill to swallow. At almost \$500 a credit hour, students deserve to learn from someone that actually wants to teach.

There are a few different types of professors that fall into this category, the one that doesn't teach at all, the unavailable professor that is here for some other reason than teaching or the professors that feel they shouldn't have to help their students.

The professors that don't teach are the most chaotic for the sole reason that you rarely have any type of foundation for your learning. They typically use a third-party source like Macmillan, ALEKS, McGraw Hill or WebAssign that "teaches" you and then makes you do homework directly on it while charging you a few hundred dollars for the privilege. These professors are always incredibly disconnected from what their students are learning to the point I don't feel most of them even know the material we're expected to learn.

Then there is the professor that is here for another reason than teaching. Whether they are working on a research project, a book, a program or what have you, it's typically the reason they ended up at a university in the first place. They are usually so distracted by their own track of achievements, the students they should be teaching are being left behind.

Finally, my personal least favorite, the throw you in the deep end professors. There are very few specific occasions where this is a valid argument like 400 level classes that are specifically designed to test your ability in an area, however, if I am being told by a 100-level science professor that questions are discouraged, that is a fundamental problem. One of the foundations of learning is the ability to ask questions, and without that, what's the point?

From personal experience, the professors that do this are just don't understand that not everyone learns the same way or that it may take one

Professors are by definition paid to teach us, not paid to just babysit a class or assign things through WebAssign and just expect us to figure it out. As students, we are intentionally seeking post-secondary education and are paying top dollar for it. The knowledge we are here to gain should not be gate kept from us by professors that seem all too happy to do just that.

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For more information and to apply visit: ferris.academicworks.com

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Updated August 13, 2020

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

SPORTS

Brendan Sanders | Sports Editor | sandeb16@ferris.edu

Play put on pause

Tennis teams dealing with match postponements due to COVID-19

Brody Keiser
Sports Reporter

Ferris' men's and women's tennis will have to wait before they can continue winning matches.

The women's team is off to a strong 7 - 1 start and is ranked no.24 nationally. However, their March 26, March 27 and April 3 matches were postponed due to COVID-19 protocols. On the men's side, they boast an undefeated 8 - 0 record and had their April 3 match postponed.

Head coach Mark Doren feels the layoff has "put a stall" to both teams' momentum and could impact their performance going forward.

"It's going to have an impact," Doren said. "Anytime you can't get in the weight room or get on the court to go through normal day-to-day activities it's going to be different."

Doren continued to say that his players are "really focused" while in quarantine and doing the things they need to be doing to be as prepared as possible when they return to play.

The women's team will return to

play April 9 against Davenport and April 10 against Purdue Northwest. Then they will face Northwood and Grand Valley April 13 and 14, respectively, to make up the earlier postponements. To close the regular season, they will play three more matches between April 16 - 20, including the make up match against Saginaw Valley April 20.

Playing seven matches in 12 days to close the regular season will be "a difficult task" according to Doren, but one he feels the women are up to.

"It's going to be a lot," Doren said. "At this point in the season, even in practice we're doing a lot of match preparation instead of working on detailed things. Instead of doing practice work, they're playing a lot of matches, so I think they're ready for it."

Sophomore Morgan Waller has her own concerns about playing so many matches in such a short amount of time.

"It's going to for sure be tough on the body," Waller said. "Since we're getting towards the tail end of our quarantine, we're trying to do a little bit of light workouts to try to get back in shape and put

ourselves in a better position for when we can get back out on the court. Once we do start playing, a big thing will be rest and recovery after our matches. Especially with not having played in a while, it's going to be tough on our body. We have to ice and stretch a lot."

The men's team had their matchup with Grand Valley re-scheduled for April 14 and will play five matches between April 9 and 17. Their next match is also against Davenport on April 9.

"Postponing a game because of COVID-19 is of course never a fun thing to do," senior Mathis Guerre said. "As of right now, we are just hoping that everyone will feel better soon. If everyone can get back to practice and healthy in the next few days, I don't think it will impact the rest of our season."

Both teams will focus on getting healthy before their upcoming matchups with Davenport on April 9. When they retake the court, both teams will try to move past their two week layoff and continue winning games to finish out the regular season.



Photo by: Brendan Sanders | Sports Editor

Morgan Waller and the rest of the tennis program have had to step back in recent weeks.

Ending the season on a high note

Volleyball ends regular season with weekend sweep



Photo by: Brendan Sanders | Sports Editor

The Bulldogs finished the regular season 4th in the GLIAC standings.

Brendan Sanders
Sports Editor

Volleyball wrapped up their regular season with a weekend sweep against Saginaw Valley State, not dropping a single set in the pair of games.

A dominant performance was on display as the Bulldogs took on the 4 - 10 Saginaw Valley State Cardinals. Not facing much of a challenge, the Bulldogs rolled to two 3 - 0 victories. This pushed their records to 10 - 4 to conclude the regular season.

The first match of the weekend saw the Bulldogs win 3 - 0, with the sets being 25 - 15, 25 - 13 and 25 - 18. It was a well spread-out performance for the Bulldogs in this game, with no single player staring in the match. Samantha Herman, Katie O'Connell, and Kira Merkle all had nine points each in the contest, with each player notching eight kills. Keona Salesman also scored 8.5 points in the match. Head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm explained the offensive success for the Bulldogs in the matchup.

"I thought our offense was pretty good because we were able to serve them out of system, so it made it a little bit easier on our defense. Today, we actually saw a few things we're trying to work on with our offense, just being better as individual attackers." Brandel-Wilhelm said.

The second match of the weekend was an-

other 3 - 0 shutout, with the sets being 25 - 20, 25 - 11, and 25 - 18. Katie O'Connell scored the most points of any player on the weekend with 12 points, with 11 kills. Keona Saleman was second on the team with 11.5 points. She recorded nine kills in the match.

This was the first time this season that volleyball was allowed to have a few fans in the stands for the event.

The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) president's and chancellors recently approved a new policy for the spring sports season, allowing institutions only four tickets per student-athlete for the home volleyball team only. In addition to this athletes had to establish 20 feet of separation between the athletes and the fans in the stands. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm commented on the recent addition of fans for the weekend.

"It's great to play with fans for sure. Definitely a long time coming. I think our administration did this in a really safe way. They were really proactive in how they were able to handle the fans." Brandel-Wilhelm said. "I know for our parents especially, and our super fans, this is really important to them, just to be in the gym instead of having to watch this on tv."

The Bulldogs wrap up their season this weekend as they first take on Northwood in the GLIAC Tournament on Friday, April 9, at 4 p.m. If they win that game they will continue their march to a GLIAC championship crown.

WEEKEND SCORECARD

Soccer

April 1 - Ferris 3, Davenport 0

Softball

April 3 - Ferris 4, Wayne State 2
April 3 - Ferris 2, Wayne State 3

Volleyball

April 2 - Ferris 3, Saginaw Valley State 0
April 3 - Ferris 3, Saginaw Valley State 0

Online sports wagering? You bet!

Michigan sees success in first legal month of remote sports betting

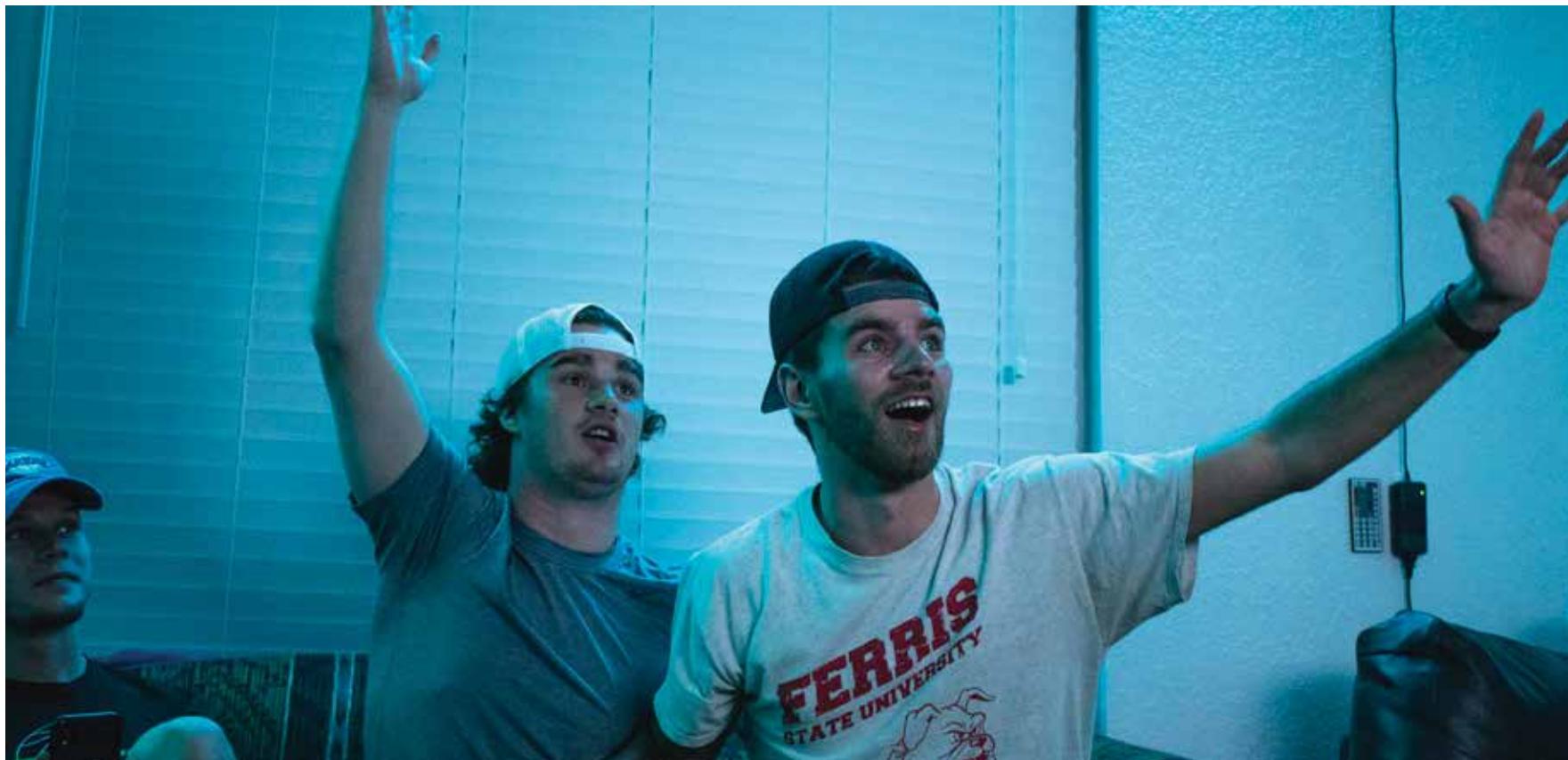


Photo by: Cora Hall | Editor in Chief

Zak Hamilton (left) and Ryan Lefor watch the NCAA men's national championship game between Gonzaga and Baylor on Monday, April 5.

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

For many sports fans in Michigan, Gov. Whitmer's 2019 bill legalizing sports betting was a well-anticipated reality.

According to PlayMichigan.com, a Michigan-centric informational site on gambling, there have been over \$607 million dollars of sports wagers placed since betting was made permissible. This has brought in more than 45 million dollars of lifetime revenue from sports wagers. Many people have wondered why so many have entered the realm of sports betting. For fellow Ferris student Ryan Lefor, it's the amplified exuberance of the experience.

"It makes sports even more exciting," Lefor said. "It just adds a different aspect for me to get excited about."

With a year's worth of success, Michigan decided to begin the next phase of sports betting. On Jan. 22, online sportsbooks launched, making it officially accessible within the state. This allows sports fans, like Ryan, to place bets on their smartphones instead of having to go to the nearest casino.

"It's essentially way easier. Every app has the option to play any casino game right on your phone. It could be a bad thing if you don't have self-control."

While the action of wagering is now allowed, it does not come without a restriction. Participants must be 21 years or older to place a bet.

"I think it's pretty smart," Lefor said on the age restriction being 21 rather than 18.

"I feel like kids in high school are still maturing to a level and might not understand what they are fully doing. Those three years could help when they begin to move out and learn the value of money."

Despite other states requiring prospective bettors to register at a licensed retail location, Michiganders are allowed to register remotely into their desired sportsbook's app or website. Participants will also be allowed to bet at casinos even if they choose to register online.

Fellow sports bettor Zak Hamilton believes this convenience makes the possibilities to bet much flexible.

"It's crazy. Once, I was just sitting watching a random game when I looked on my app. I put some money on it since it gave me something to watch."

One thing that lacks restriction is that bettors do not have to be Michigan residents to place bets within the state. This allows residents from nearby states to legally make bets within Michigan state boundaries, despite their state's outlaw of sports wagering. To make this possible, sportsbook apps will require users to allow location tracking for confirmation that they are indeed within state lines.

"It's kind of crazy to me," Hamilton said. "It shocked me because I thought [the rule] would be where you lived is what you follow."

Michigan is the latest of 14 states to have full, restriction-free legalization of online sports betting. This allows participants to place wagers on many different aspects of the game.

One type of wager is called the spread. As one of the most common bets, the point spread is a value set by sportsbooks on how much the expected winner is favored to win in a contest. Participants choose which team will "cover" the assessed spread, whether it's the favorite winning by more than the spread value or the underdog either winning or losing by less than the spread value.

For example, if the Chicago Bulls were a -2 point spread favorite against the Detroit Pistons, bettors will choose if the Bulls will win by more than 3 points or if the Pistons will lose by less than 3 points or win. If the game ends with the Bulls winning by exactly 3, the game will be considered a "push" and the wager is refunded.

"I find rooting for a specific team is more fun to bet and watch than cheering for both teams to score or not score," Hamilton said regarding spread bets.

The second type is what is called a money line bet. This type of bet is simple. In a matchup, you are choosing what team will win. If you win, you win the amplified value of your bet based on the money line. For example, if you bet \$190 the Indians would win with a -190 money line, you would win an additional \$100 if Cleveland gets the win. If you bet \$100 the Tigers would pull off the upset with a +165 line, you would earn a total of \$265. This type of bet is very common in lower-scoring sports like baseball and hockey. Plus, they are simple enough to help beginners understand the experience.

The third main type of bet is the totals, or over/under bets. With an over/under bet,

the main idea is you are trying to decide if the game's total score will be under or over the designated total number. In the 2020 Week 3 NFL game of the Ravens vs. Chiefs, the over/under mark was placed at 54.5. As a bettor, you could choose if both team's scores would combine for 55 points and higher or 54 points and lower.

There are many other types of bets like futures, props and parlays that many fans go for the big money with small odds. Every year someone wins big, like Mattress Mack with his legendary Super Bowl 55 debt. With a wager of 3.4 million dollars on the Buccaneers, he walked away with 6.18 million dollars in his pocket. While these bold, large-scale bets are extremely uncommon, the amount of people stepping on the betting scene has increased thoroughly since states like Michigan have legalized it. Trends now are showing that the future of the act will become astronomical.

"It's basically taking over the world," Lefor said. "In the next couple months, when more states start legalizing it, it's going to be a billion-dollar industry."

When asked about the future scale of betting, Hamilton believes there is a potential for stadium betting.

"Teams like the Red Wings use game lines as a way to tell how the game is going to go. I think once it becomes legal all over the country we'll start seeing sportsbooks stadiums and be able to bet on games there."

For more information on sportsbooks and sports betting, visit <https://www.michigan.gov/mgcb/>.



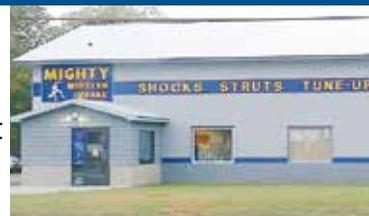
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Same Team, New Faces

New face hopefully means a winning Lions team

Austin Arquette
Sports Reporter

Ford Field will have a different look and feel to it once the NFL 2021 season kicks off for the Detroit Lions.

While the Lions moved on from many players and coaches this offseason, it only goes to show Detroit is in full rebuild mode. With new coaches and new players, the Lions look to change their culture.

The Lions had a change at the general manager position after letting Bob Quinn go at the same time as former head coach Matt Patricia. Taking their place will be former Los Angeles Rams college scouting director Brad Holmes as general manager and Dan Campbell as head coach. While Holmes is only 41, he will take over as the youngest general manager in the NFL. Holmes was a part of the decision to hire Dan Campbell.

The Lions hired new offensive and defensive coordinators. Former Los Angeles Chargers head coach Anthony Lynn will handle the offense and former New Orleans Saints secondary coach Aaron Glenn will tackle the defense.

Unfortunately, the Lions have much to rebuild as their roster is completely changed heading into the 2021 season. Of course, the biggest offseason acquisition Detroit went through this offseason was a trade with the Los Angeles Rams. This trade included the Lions sending fan favorite quarterback Matthew Stafford to the Rams for

Jared Goff, two first-round draft picks and a third-round pick.

Another trade with the Rams also happened, which involved Detroit's acquisition of defensive tackle Michael Brockers for a seventh-round pick in 2023. Brockers is a nice added piece on the defensive side of the ball and will join the Lions along with new linebacker Alex Anzalone and defensive end Charles Harris.

Detroit lost four defensive players to free agency with Jarrad Davis, Reggie Ragland, Miles Killebrew and Darryl Roberts. Unfortunately, the loss of players didn't stop there. Because of new coaches and management, the Lions released four more defensive players: Christian Jones, Justin Coleman, Desmond Trufant and Danny Shelton.

While many defensive holes are left unfilled, the Lions arguably are hit worse on the offensive side after they lost four wide receivers, including both starters: Kenny Golladay, Marvin Jones Jr., Jamal Agnew and Mohamed Sanu. These players on the defensive and offensive side are only eight of the 19 players that have left Detroit this offseason.

However, Detroit did sign 10 new additions on both sides of the ball with the biggest name so far in wide receiver Tyrell Williams. There are still five players that remain unsigned, which include Adrian Peterson, Danny Amendola, Everson Griffen, Tony McRae and Duron Harmon, who all were with Detroit last season.



As the Lions still have time to fill the voids left on their team, they will have to push free agents that haven't been signed yet to come to join the motor city. Other than signing free agents, Detroit will look forward to the NFL draft as they hold the seventh overall pick.

One player I suggest the Lions stay away from is Gregory Rousseau, the defensive end from Miami. I say to stay away from Rousseau simply because he only has played his position in his senior year of high school and sat out a year in Miami. With little focus on his position, it wouldn't be wise for Detroit to take Rousseau when they still have Trey Flowers, Romeo and Julian Ok-

wara, Nick Williams, Michael Brockers and Charles Harris on the line. I think Detroit has bigger needs than the defensive line and needs to put the focus into the secondary, grab receivers, or find their quarterback of the future if not this year but next year.

The Lions definitely have work to do in order to be ready for the 2021 season and last for 17 games or more, permitting they can make it to a postseason again. If Campbell produces anything close to Patricia's time in Detroit, he will not last as long as Patricia did and will be gone a lot sooner.

The top five draft pick suggestions for the Lions are as follows:



1. LSU - WR - Ja'Marr Chase

I rank Chase as the top prospect for the Lions this year solely because at number seven this is an absolute steal. Chase is arguably the best receiver in the draft. In his sophomore year Chase had 84 catches, 1,780 yards and 20 scores, which outproduced the NFL's leading rookie receiver.

2. Penn State - LB- Micah Parsons

If Parson is available at seven, I would love to see Parsons land in Detroit. Parsons stands at 6'3 and 246 pounds, with amazing speed and instincts. With 109 tackles, 14 tackles for loss, five sacks, five passes defended and four forced fumbles in 13 games in 2019.



3. Ohio State - QB- Justin Fields

I think outside of Lawrence, Fields is the next best QB in this draft. Fields has the complete package with his arm strength, size, mobility, field vision, touch, accuracy, risk-reward judgment and leadership all wrapped into one person. I would rank him first overall in this draft, but Trevor Lawrence is in this draft.

4. Alabama - WR - DeVonta Smith

Another one of the top receivers in this draft. Smith gained a bunch of coaching from Nick Saban and was an absolute force in Alabama's offense. At 6'1 and 174 pounds, Smith recorded over 1,800 yards with 23 touchdowns and won the Heisman Trophy in the 2020 season.



5. Alabama - CB - Patrick Surtain II

If all four of the previous options aren't available, I would like to see Detroit trade back a little into the teens and select Alabama's best cornerback. Surtain would help add to the short corner position the Lions have and could help lead Detroit to a nice cornerback duo in Surtain and Okudah. Both are top picks and will become something great if it all works out.

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS SCHEDULE FOR FERRIS

Wednesday, April 7:

- Softball at Wisconsin-Parkside at 3 & 5 p.m.

Friday, April 9:

- Men's Golf at Bill Blazer Memorial
- Women's Tennis vs. Davenport at 10 a.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Davenport at 3 p.m.
- Soccer at NMU at 3 p.m.
- Volleyball vs Northern Michigan

at 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 10:

- Men's Golf at Bill Blazer Memorial
- Track & Field at Hillsdale Invitational
- Volleyball at GLIAC Tournament
- Women's Tennis vs. Purdue Northwest at 10 a.m.
- Softball at Purdue Northwest at 2 p.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Purdue Northwest at 3 p.m.

- Softball at Purdue Northwest at 4p.m.

Sunday, April 11:

- Women's Golf at Walsh Invitational
- Volleyball vs. GLIAC Tournament
- Soccer at Michigan Tech at 12 p.m.
- Softball at Davenport at 1 & 3 p.m.

Monday, April 12:

- Women's Golf at Walsh Invitational

Tuesday, April 13:

- Women's Tennis at Northwood at 1 p.m.