

Facebook's bad week



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

The social media giant doubles down with technical and political scandals

Jessica Oakes
Special Edition Editor

Time is money.

Social media users were unable to access websites owned by Facebook for over six hours in the Oct. 4 outage. This cut off both social and professional communication within the sites for over two billion people, including digital media professor Andrew Tingley and his students.

The outage cost Facebook an estimated \$65 million and, according to Tingley, emphasized the need for media variation.

"If you choose to focus on a social media or digital marketing strategy, it's a really good idea to diversify as much as possible," Tingley said.

Tingley's online media management course uses social networks such as Instagram, bought by Facebook in 2012, to spread the word about in-class programs.

Cheyenne Brown, a junior in the television and digital media program, was unable to upload graded promotional Instagram posts before their deadline. It was also difficult for her to contact her parents, whose poor cellular service prompts them to mainly communicate through Messenger.

"The outage not only affected my communication, but also prevented me from doing assignments for class," Brown said.

TechWise stated that Facebook acquired 85 different companies since its inception in 2004. The interconnectedness of these platforms worries Tingley, as over 3.51 bil-

lion people use at least one of the company's four main products.

"WhatsApp, [Messenger], Instagram and Facebook, why are they all built off of the same exact infrastructure? And the outage affected all of them equally, that's what really kind of startles me," Tingley said.

Facebook released a public apology regarding the "cascade of errors" that led to the outage.

"To all the people and businesses around the world who depend on us, we are sorry for the inconvenience caused by today's outage across our platforms. We've been working as hard as we can to restore access, and our systems are now back up and running" it reads.

Tingley believes that businesses using Facebook profiles rather than a personal webpage for consumer communication are at risk.

"If Facebook goes down for a few hours, people searching for their contact information or location simply can't find out about that business, right? So we really encourage that businesses have [their] own platform, they have their own website that they update."

Facebook itself, however, will most likely move on from this event rather unscathed. Alex Cartwright, assistant professor of economics, explained that the \$65 million loss in advertising revenue amounted to less than one percent of the company's estimated yearly earnings. Facebook stock has yet to recover from the eventful week, dropping

13% in the month of October. Cartwright suspects that this is due to regulatory uncertainty, rather than the outage.

"The recent whistleblower has brought a lot of scrutiny on the company, and there is bipartisan support in Congress to somehow change Facebook's business practices, which may hurt its profits. Uncertainty scares investors," Cartwright said.

Facebook v. Frances

On Oct. 3, one day before the outage, Frances Haugen came out as the "Facebook Whistleblower" on 60 Minutes.

Haugen, former employee of Facebook, anonymously reported the company to federal law enforcement for hidden knowledge. The complaints filed by Haugen explain that Facebook is aware of its tendency to boost hate, spread misinformation and amplify political unrest.

As explained in the thousands of pages of inside research Haugen collected as an employee, Facebook is dishonest in their promise of user safety.

"...we estimate that we may action as little as 3-5% of hate and about 6-tenths of 1% of V & I [violence and incitement] on Facebook despite being the best in the world at it," one report reads.

Two days later, Haugen presented the matter to a Senate subcommittee.

"I am here today because I believe that Facebook's products harm children, stoke division, weaken our democracy and much more," Haugen said.

Subcommittee Chair Richard Blumen-

thal, D-Conn., commented on the effects social media platforms have on the body image and wellbeing of young users.

"Facebook exploited teens using powerful algorithms that amplified their insecurities," Blumenthal said. "I hope we will discuss as to whether there is such a thing as a safe algorithm."

Haugen maintained the stance that Facebook and Instagram are aware of the action that must be taken to solve this issue.

"The company's leadership knows ways to make Facebook and Instagram safer and won't make the necessary changes because they have put their immense profits before people. Congressional action is needed. They cannot solve this crisis without your help," Haugen said.

Political science professor Christina Eanes believes that social media accelerates division, and that media companies profit from this division.

"... not many people know how to conduct civil discourse over difficult topics," Eanes said. "We are not explicitly taught these skills, though they are essential to democratic function. In schools, and families, difficult topics are avoided to prevent conflict. So when given a platform to discuss these topics, people lack the experience to navigate them."

Despite bipartisan unity on the matter, Eanes does not believe it is the government's role to regulate or moderate these platforms.

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NEWS

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Akademos Makes Ferris a Priority

How Akademos aims to resolve problems students faced over the fall.



Photo courtesy of the Torch archives

Akademos is committed to supporting Ferris students and faculty.

Trenton Carlson
Freelance Reporter

Ferris students and faculty were greeted apologetically by Akademos on Oct. 7 and Oct. 12. In the apology, they allowed students and faculty to express their concerns about their books.

The resulting meetings aimed to allow those who attended to speak freely on what they experienced in the fall, and ask questions about how the problems will be addressed. Akademos also gave a slide presentation on what changes are to be expected in the future, and what faculty and staff can expect this spring.

Many students agreed among the crowd that social media was a great way to reach students directly. They suggested making TikTok's and an Akademos or Ferris Bookstore related Instagram page.

"We want to hear what you guys loved, what you hated [and] what you want to see changed, and we also want to share with you the things that are already happening to make this a very different spring," Kelly Tilstra, senior director of business development at Akademos, said.

Although attendance at each event was low, those in attendance were quick to voice their experiences. The most common problem students expressed was not getting some of the books they ordered. The cause of this

was Akademos' decision to purchase a low number of books in the fall, and a surplus of students ordering their books just before the semester began.

Unpleasant customer service was also a problem for students. Some students experienced long wait times and their questions were left unanswered due to the long holds. To combat this issue, Akademos has increased their customer service team by 29%.

According to Tilstra, Akademos is hopeful that with the implementation of their new methods, this additional 29% of customer service representatives will be underwhelmed, instead of being consumed by phone calls in the coming spring. Akademos has also implemented a 24 hour response time standard for all emails. They plan to assign priority status to all calls and emails related to, putting faculty and students of the university in front of other colleges.

With new forms of virtual and online education rising to the surface more frequently, Akademos will provide students with instant access to online mediums for learning when they order, instead of sending a QR code to the university for pickup.

One student among the crowd admitted to using Chegg, a discounted online bookstore for used and new books. This service can also provide help with assignments related to the specific

book.

The student then asked how Akademos stood apart from Chegg. Akademos' response to the question was that they provide students with the opportunity to charge books to their student account, as well as make certain that the books they sell are the exact copy and addition that a professor requires. Adding to their response, CEO Raj Kaji pointed out Akademos also has a book marketplace where students can compare prices of books online.

"On our website we will have a variety of updates throughout the course [of] the next several months," Kaji said. "As far as overall communication, [there are] plans for chatting with administration in terms of how to have that conversation on a more holistic basis."

Tilstra's closing statement at the meeting encouraged students to inform those that did not attend the meetings to contact them with any questions or concerns they may have.

Spooked by sports

These athletes will do anything they can to scare you

Becca Witkowski

News Reporter

Kendall Rooks worked at the Torch in 2020 as a reporter.

Various Ferris sports teams are helping to deliver spooks and scares at a haunted corn maze located just outside of Big Rapids.

The haunted corn maze is hosted by Four Green Fields Farm, located in Rodney, Michigan. Various groups in the community can sign up to help run the maze. The group then earns half of the money made that night.

"This was my third year working the maze, and every year has been a blast," Kendall Rooks, a women's rugby player, said. "It has been either freezing cold or raining every time, but I always enjoy spending time with my team. This is somewhat of a bonding event also, which is great."

The past two weekends have been staffed by the women's rugby, women's softball, hockey and cross-country teams. The men's basketball team and the tennis teams will be working the corn maze on Oct. 22 and Oct. 30 respectively. The Ferris Newman Center will also be staffing the maze on Oct. 29.

Scarers use a variety of tactics to try to startle participants going through the maze. They dress up in costumes and work with their teammates to try to scare maze-goers as they traverse through the maze. Scarers follow, scream at, jump in front of, and run past participants. Participants and scarers are not allowed to touch each other, so the scarers rely on frightening maze-goers through sight and sound.

"My group relied on both jump scares and the general feeling of

being uneasy," Emily Stevenson, a women's rugby player, said. "We had two people stand in the middle of the path, while another person jumped out and screamed at people walking by."

The money generated goes towards funding different projects and activities for each individual team. According to Rooks, the money generated by the rugby team goes towards paying for the referees at games, after-game socials and their weekend tournament in Nashville.

The haunted corn maze is open every Friday and Saturday night from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. until the end of the month. Entrance into the maze is \$4, and participants go through the maze at their own pace.



Photo by: Bradley Moore | Torch Photographer

Austin McCarthy haunts maze participants with the rest of the men's hockey team.

The fair is back

Information packed event returns to campus

Jerry Gaytan
News Reporter

The Academic Opportunity Fair returned in-person to offer students information on resources provided on campus, along with free goods.

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, the Academic Support Center hosted their annual Academic Opportunity Fair in the University Center. The event consisted of tables lined throughout the UC conference room that were manned by members of various Ferris departments, offices and services. Each table offered students a free item, these items included notebooks, headphones, planners and t-shirts. Esports, the Office of Multicultural Student Services, the College of Arts and Sciences, Flite librarians and others were represented at the event.

"It's good to get the students in to see the different offices and services available to them that they may not have known about," David Scott, a marketing and outreach librarian, said.

According to Karen Royster-James, the Academic Support Center supervisor, the fair attracted 200 students this year.

Last year this event was held virtually due to COVID-19. According to Jonathan Eaton, the esports coordinator, it did not seem to attract students as much as the in-person fair, which had students filtering in and out.

"I prefer in person," Eaton said. "Virtually was the best that we could do at the time."

The Academic Opportunity Fair is usually held mid-fall semester to remind students of the services offered to them. According to Royster-James, available funding only allows for this event to be held once in both the fall and spring semesters.

Julie Alexander, the director of Accessibility & Disability Resources, stated that the event allowed her to promote their Disability Awareness Month events.

To promote safety, the tables were scattered and given ample room to promote social distancing. Masks were also required.



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

The Academic opportunity fair was hosted to inform students what offices and services they have access to.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

Camera case snatched

Oct. 11, 11:02 a.m. - Officers were dispatched to the IRC after a camera case worth nearly \$400 was stolen from a loading dock. Case was closed due to lacking leads.

Tinder Troubles

Oct. 12, 1:55 p.m. - A student met someone from Tinder and said person began sending explicit photos and generally harassing her after she wished to discontinue talking to them. Case has been turned over to Manistee PD.

Not your name

Oct. 13, 12:20 p.m. - Someone applied for a loan under someone else's name. The case is still under investigation.

Rec or wreck?

Oct. 13, 6:08 p.m. - Assault took place at the University Rec Center between two females. Both with conflicting stories and minimal injuries, officers recorded info and passed it along to the prosecutors office for review.

Swiped some soap

Oct. 16, 1:42 a.m. - Break in at a grounds management facility. Suspect took a box of soap. Case closed due to lacking leads.

Phone home...?

Oct. 16, 3:44 p.m. - Man reported that he had left his phone in the Rock, when he returned to get it, it was gone. Closed due to lack of being a case.



Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

MICH. - New Michigan fishing regulations took effect Friday.

In the Crystal Waters State Game Area in Monroe County, the harvesting of fish is not allowed. All fish must be caught and immediately released, according to a DNR news release.

At Lake Gogebic in Gogebic and Ontonagon counties, there will be a return to statewide rules for walleye. That includes a 15-inch minimum size limit and the maximum daily possession limit of five fish according to the Detroit Free Press.

Lastly, these regulations changed how pike fishing works in 21 different bodies of water.

Starting Friday, there will be a no-minimum size limit and a daily possession limit of five fish, but only one of the five may be larger than 24 inches.

MACKINAC ISLAND - Mackinac island has seen its busiest year of tourism is awhile according to Chris Shepler, a third-generation operator of Shepler's Ferry.

"This summer was out of control, off the charts crazy," Shepler told the Detroit Free Press. "Absolutely crazy. We set records for our all-time busiest summer in the history of our company."

While William Henry "Cap" Chepler started this service 77 years ago, he started with a six seater speedboat. Today, Chris runs seven boats out of two cities.

"We absolutely carried more than 600,000 people this year to the island, maybe 650,000," Shepler said. "On the dock, we were working 60 to 80 hours a week. I took two days off between mid-June and mid-September. And it was the best staff we've ever had, hands-down."

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Exploring Gender Through Clothing

How the LGBTQ+ resource center is hoping to help students feel more comfortable in their bodies



Photo by: Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

Sarah Doherty [and Derk Poortenga] sort clothes in preparation for the Trans Closet event.

Meghan Hartley
Lifestyles Reporter

On Friday, Oct. 15, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center hosted their first gender exploration and trans closet event.

The gender exploration and trans closet event was designed to give students the opportunity to explore a new gender or find clothing that fits their identity. In general, the event was created to provide a resource to students where they could take clothing items that would help them be comfortable in their own skin and authentically be themselves.

Sarah Doherty, the coordinator of the LGBTQ+ Resource Center, suggested having a gender exploration and trans closet for all students on campus. Hoping to give students, who are transitioning or questioning their identity, a safe place where they can replace pieces of their wardrobe to better reflect the gender they identify as.

"Access to clothing that better reflects their gender is what makes them feel good in their bodies, [it's] what helps with being seen as their actual gender by the people around them," Doherty said.

Doherty said the center received huge donations of clothing over the summer and over the past few weeks from the community. Each item was washed before being put out for others to potentially take home with them.

Junior Rebekah Berthold is a lesbian

who came to the event to find clothing that would make her feel better for the individual that she is.

"The main reason is because at home I'm not out to my family. So I can't always dress the way that I would necessarily want to," Berthold said. "Normally I go shopping with my stepmom, so I don't always necessarily get to buy the clothes that I would want to buy because she's there, and I'm worried that she's going to ask me questions, so I don't get to dress as 'gay-ly' as I would like to."

Berthold thinks the event was an opportunity for individuals to get the things they are comfortable wearing. Stating that having events like the clothing closet and access to the LGBTQ+ Resource Center is important for individuals because they can serve as judgement free zones.

"For me, it's nice to be able to find people who are like you," Berthold said. "It's nice to be able to do that in a way that isn't walking up to someone and saying, 'Hey, so are you gay?' It's nice to be able to have a common group where you know that people are like you, and you don't have to go through the process of asking them right away."

Spaces in which individuals won't be judged, especially for their appearance, are important to have in one's community, as Berthold described. For the LGBTQ+ Resource Center, they hope to be that safe place for students.

Jack Davis, a junior working at the Re-

source Center, believes a person should feel better about themselves when wearing clothes they have picked out.

"This event is to help spread awareness that clothing isn't gendered," Davis said. "Clothing is just cloth, and you should feel good about your body, regardless of what you are. So we are giving [clothing] out, so trans people in our community [can] feel a lot better about themselves."

While the gender exploration and trans closet was aimed to provide resources for the LGBTQ+ community, all individuals were welcomed to check out what the center had. While this was the first major closet event the center put on, it was not the first closet they have ever had.

The Resource Center has a closet of its own that is open all year round for students. The closet has clothing, brushes, binders, packers and other essential items students might need. Similar to what they handed out at their event on Friday.

What made their event so special, although they already have a closet running, is that this was an opportunity to spread the word to students, and let them know this resource is here for them.

"I always hope with a resource showcase like this [that] folks will better understand what the Resource Center has to offer," Doherty said. "Maybe folks will make connections and community together, but I want folks who need, [or want], resources to have the opportunity to try some stuff

out and take something that works for them. That makes them feel more affirmed in their gender, whatever their gender [may be]."

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center has a lot to offer individuals of all kinds, from community support to ally information. The most important thing the center hopes, as Doherty says, is that students take up their offer of getting resources to succeed, not only on campus, but also in the world.

To a few students, it's important that the center is here for them. Sophomore Archimedes Esparza believes the center can be a place for individuals who are just now exploring their gender identity in a place where people care.

"It's very important that people know about this, so that no one feels lost or helpless," Esparza said. "They can always come and see someone and figure out things and get anything that they would need to either progress with acceptance or with their new gender identity."

Whether it be obtaining clothing to embrace a new identity, answering questions on sexuality or just needing a safe place to be able to talk to someone, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center is ready to welcome students and answer any questions they have and support them for the future.

For more information on upcoming events or on how to get involved with the center, students can head to their office in the lobby of the CLACS office.

LIFESTYLES

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

From hard hats to guitar straps

How four construction management students found their passion

Marissa Russell
Lifestyles Editor

"Nobody knows who we are."

This is how Gunner Gingrich explains his band, Who Knows. The band consists of three Ferris construction management seniors and one alumni. Mitch Maier, who graduated last spring, plays drums while Gingrich and Jacob Mondak are on guitars. Matt Vandermus takes the front stage as the singer.

The band started two years ago by accident, with the four members not knowing each other until they started the band. Maier and Gingrich played at a local house party with two other students. After the show, Vandermus went to Gingrich and him that he played guitar and was interested in joining the band. Mondak, who knew a couple of guys in the band through class, was brought in after that. Because they had three guitarists, Vandermus got moved lead vocals and solidified the band.

As they were about to have their first show, they ran into the issue of settling on a name. A few days before the show, Mondak told the other members that they needed to pick a name right so they could print out posters to advertise. One of the covers they play is "Who Knows" by Jimi Hendrix and that name for the band stuck.

The music Who Knows is playing is something that most listeners haven't heard before. While they typically play classic rock, they enjoy venturing out and playing anything from country to folk music.

"A unique blend of it all," Mondak said. "A melting pot of music."

Gingrich and Vandermus have been working on writing their own music for the band. They hope to be able to play one of their originals on Halloween night.

Mondak said what he enjoys is that many people their age don't really know this type of music that they're playing. So it gives him joy that they can expose this type of music, like classic rock, to younger crowds.

Because the band is still new, only starting playing live shows in the last year, a lot of their fan base are other construction management majors coming to their shows. But that hasn't stopped them from having crazy experiences.

"When we were playing at Paz's the first time, the win-



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor

The most recent show Who Knows has played was at Sawmill Oct. 2.

dow was opened behind Mitch, and a girl jumped in the window behind his drum set," Gingrich said. "She then like stumbled around it, and open the side door next to where he was playing, and let like 30 girls in and they stepped on my amp cord and bent the thing inside of the little input jack and broke the cable. But it was cool seeing like 30 girls trying to get in."

Besides getting noise complaints, a big issue the group has faced is not having everyone in the same place in life. Vandermus said it is hard trying to find time to get everyone in the band together due to this.

Even though Gingrich and Vandermus will graduate this winter, leaving Mondak the only member still at

Ferris, the band still plans to play together for years to come.

"My long-term goal is to bring music to people who can relate, love it, and bring an energy to people because there's nothing in the world like that feeling," Vandermus said. "I don't care if we're playing in front of 10 people or if we're playing in front of 100 people, as long as those people are into our music and they're enjoying it, that's my goal."

The band has played at local bars, like Paz and Sawmill, as well as bars in South Haven and Grand Rapids. To find more information about Who Knows go to their Instagram page @whoknows_fsu.

Torch Tunes: Don Toliver goes on a journey to the dark and bright sides of the rich and famous

Jerry Gaytan
News Reporter

Don Toliver's latest album shows that he is the protégé of Travis Scott.

"Life of a Don" is one of his best works, taking listeners on a journey of psychedelic and euphoric sounds. This album is too good, from the production to Toliver's lyricism on the life of fame and riches. Mike Dean, Metro Boomin and Travis Scott are credited as producers on the album.

Compared to his Gold-selling album "Heaven Or Hell," the new LP is loaded with trappier hi-hats and harder-hitting 808s. The Houston rapper explains the life of having fame and how it's not all that it seems to be. While he sulks in his loneliness and heartbreak, he reminds himself he's a millionaire.

The first couple tracks "XSCAPE," "5X" and "Way Bigger" come in synth-heavy, with the astral sounds similar to Cactus Jack founder Travis Scott. "Life Of A

Don" seems to show Toliver's change in sound with the ethereal sounds on "5X" with the wobble synths and a prominent bright clave note. "Way Bigger" comes bass drum-heavy, which explains the title and lyrics, "I got bass, but it hit way bigger."

On "Flocky Flocky" Don is joined by Scott in the first of their two duo tracks of the album. The track features a mix of bright guitar picks and trippy light synth keys along with Scott's adlibs. This track is a rollercoaster, with its chaotic and moody feel. He then includes his single "What You Need" which gives an underwater, pulsating ethereal sound.

"Double Standards" and "Drugs N Hella Melodies" both go deep in talking about his relationships and the topic of love. In "Drugs N Hella Melodies" he is joined by the soft vocals of Kali Uchis, who brings the whole track together. The track finishes with guitar and synth chords that then lead to the hard-hitting beginning of "2AM."

"2AM" begins with some hard-hitting bass that transitions smoothly with melodic piano notes that dissolve together flawlessly. The next track "Get Thrown" comes in with bass and piano chords that bring in Toliver to talk about the life of fame and its relation to the word "thrown."

"Company, Pt. 2" is the follow-up to the "Company" track in his initial album "Heaven Or Hell." The track being a Metro Boomin production is joined with trappy hi-hats and scattered snare hits along with melodic keys. Don sheds light on his need for company and the love of a female friend.

In the track "OUTERSPACE" he is joined by Baby Keem in a cosmic sound-heavy song that switches to stabbing synths that lead this track to the dark. The track is finished off with production legend Mike Dean on a guitar solo and dark synths.

The 13th track of the album "Smoke" features HVN and SoFaygo in a track that

seems to be stuck on repeat, "Smoke, smoke, smoke, smoke." The following track "You" is the second track Scott appears on. Pulsating synth over a trappy drum beat then leads to the smooth transition of Toliver and Scott's vocals. Scott comes in filter heavy with his rhyme-on-rhyme rapping, "A lil' brown skin hurricane, ay, bay-bay, bring the wave, TBA for the time and space, lock the day."

"Crossfaded" is a track mixed with a variety of synth sounds, making it sound out of this world. The last track "BOGUS" is a fast-paced song with a flute-like sound over a trappy beat. This track was made to be the final song of the album with Don not ending the party "til it's over."

Overall, this album is very good! The production mixed with Don Toliver's smooth vocals makes this album ahead of its time. This is a great album to work out to or just for going on a walk or drive. I would say this shows how much Toliver has grown as an artist and lyricist.

Fast food isn't so fast anymore

Giuliana Denicolo
Freelance Reporter

Emily Hernandez has recently had a poor experience at McDonald's; she paid for a meal that she did not receive.

Low staff, technical difficulties with food apps, systems shutting down, longer than 20-minute drive-through lines and lack of communication have been common occurrences at McDonald's this semester.

"We were in line for 45 minutes and we placed mobile orders," Ferris sophomore Hernandez said. "And as soon as we got up there, they said they were only accepting cash and couldn't give us our food, even though we already paid."

When she ordered on the app, the order and the payment went through. The worker at the window could not give Hernandez her meal because their system was down.

Hernandez said they were told there was an authorization hold on our orders and they'd get refunded in two hours. She checked after a few days and neither of them got their money back.

To avoid this recurring problem, McDonald's can take the extra step of double-checking its system to ensure it will be able to take on more orders.

"Maybe making sure the systems are okay before opening," Hernandez said. "Not many people carry cash on them, so they should make sure that cards will go through."

With McDonald's being only one of the fast-food restaurants that stays open so late, they get a lot of customers and orders.

Most students only go to fast food places around here late at night, so maybe their system fails because there are just so many orders all at once Hernandez said.

Curbside pickup, dine-in and the second drive-through all close earlier than the restaurant itself, which makes all the orders go through one place.

"They should really figure out a better system for late at night, like keeping curbside pickup or the second drive-through open until later," Hernandez said. "I think the main reason [for long lines] is low staff. [Big Rapids] is a college town with mostly students, so they aren't going to have enough people on night shifts because we have classes the next day."

McDonald's has been promoting that they are hiring and has had a lot of interviews, but still are experiencing low staff.

Hernandez said she knows someone that works at McDonald's, and they are having interviews left and right, but they just aren't hiring anyone.

Demarco McKinney, a graphic design student, has had similar experiences at McDonald's.

"I waited [in line at McDonald's] for a good 15 to 20 minutes," McKinney said. "Then right when I got to the window, they said they were only accepting cash."

This frequently happens at McDonald's, and each time it wastes a lot of students' time.

"I wish they could have told me that before I entered," McKinney said. "At least flag someone down and [tell them] that they're only accepting cash. It could have saved me time to make some food at home."

Getting rid of other ordering options is part of the problem and can easily be fixed.

In McKinney's opinion McDonald's needs to extend the curbside pickup hours because it saves a lot of time. She'll be waiting in line for sometimes 30 minutes just to order her food.

Taco Bell and Wendys have also had to deal with long lines, closing early and low staff, but nothing compared to the difficulties McDonald's currently faces.

Biting the bullet

Dental hygiene students are learning how to work with patients in the midst of a pandemic



Photo by: Bradley Moore | Torch Photographer

Dental hygiene students Haley Geiger and Jamil Thomas practice during a clinical class

Charles Buckel
Freelance Reporter

Dental hygiene students are having a hard time getting their patients to open wide due to the pandemic.

Compared to other professions, employees in most medical settings have had to deal with much stricter rules during the pandemic. The students who work in Ferris' dental hygiene clinic are no exception.

The students working at the clinic only know what it is like to meet with patients in a situation that requires extra care due to the pandemic. That can be a challenging thing to overcome. Andrea Grunow and Taelyn Siddall have been working in the dental clinic for over a semester now, and they say that the university does a lot to make sure the clinic is safe. Both the student and patient are screened for COVID-19 before entering the clinic, and that is just the beginning.

"We have a separate room set up with aerosol vacuums where we use aerosol producing instruments, such as polishers and ultrasonic cleaners. We also wear an N95 mask under a surgical mask in this room," Grunow said.

Then there is all the personal protection equipment, or PPE, that students need to wear, along with sanitizing any surfaces used.

"Each student wears a gown over their scrubs, a skull cap, and a face shield over safety

glasses and a surgical mask," Grunow said. "As a whole, the program is very adamant about sanitizing the surfaces we use and any surfaces that could potentially be contaminated both before and after patient treatment."

All of the precautions taken make those in the clinic feel safe while they're working in the middle of the pandemic.

"As of right now, I don't get nervous because of all the PPE we have to wear and the limited aerosols in the clinic," Siddall said.

"Personally, I do not get nervous working with the public. Mainly because we take so many precautions to make the student and patient feel safe during the appointment, and I think many of my other classmates feel the same way," Grunow said.

The students also think that the precautions are also helping the patients who come into the clinic feel less nervous as well.

"People don't seem nervous to come into the clinic because they know we take so many precautions, and if they are nervous, they probably don't come in anymore at all," Siddall said.

"I have not had too many patients come into the clinic that express verbally that they are concerned about Covid. This semester it seems many of our patients are part of the older population demographic, and are beginning to go out into the public more," Grunow said.

"It is common for us to see older

patients who are getting ready to travel to Florida for the winter and are looking for a dental cleaning. If anything, they are eager to take their mask off for [the] cleaning they are overdue for because of Covid-19."

While the extra precautions do a lot in making those in the dental clinic feel safe, it also presents challenges when interacting with patients.

"Since my class of dental hygiene students joined the program during the height of Covid-19, the only thing we know is how to interact and treat patients using all of these precautions," Grunow said. "I think it would have been easier to interact one-on-one with my patient before Covid because we wouldn't necessarily be wearing multiple layers of protection that can make hearing and understanding one another challenging."

"It is definitely weird learning how to be a dental hygienist in the middle of the pandemic and interacting with my patients," Siddall said. "There's definitely a barrier with the masks when it comes to my patients being able to hear me."

For now, work in the dental clinic will carry on with these precautions for the foreseeable future. It is impossible to know when the next class will go through the program without dealing with all of the extra precautions.

Appointments can be made at the dental hygiene clinic by calling (231) 591-2260.

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Foundation behind Ferris

Get to know the people behind the screens

Amelia Reed
Freelance Photographer

Sidewalks are salted on cold winter mornings, dorm rooms are thoroughly cleaned during the summer and broken objects are repaired in a timely manner.

Such jobs are necessary for Ferris to function the way that it does. These jobs, however, don't get completed on their own. While we may not always see the work that is done, the men and women at Facilities Management still work tirelessly to support our university.

"FSU's Facilities Management organization is responsible for the development, enhancement, maintenance and stewardship of the university's physical environment," Chad Stirrett, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, said.

Facilities Management covers a wide range of jobs and responsibilities including, but not limited to, custodial services, maintenance, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, motor pool, locksmithing, grounds keeping, construction and renovations.

Ever since the very first outbreak of COVID-19, Facilities Management has gone above and beyond. Not only has every team taken on additional work to help make sure that students and staff are protected, they have also powered through the setbacks of major budget cuts and layoffs over the past two years.

"We are the frontline for disinfection and cleaning. Our job is to keep students healthy and safe," Kevin Jackson, Custodial Supervisor for Facilities Management, said.

When Ferris shut down due to COVID-19 in the spring semester of 2020, Facilities Management stayed behind and worked tirelessly to disinfect, clean, and maintain the university in effort to keep students, staff and faculty healthy.

"If there is one thing that COVID has done, it's provided recognition to front lines staff, reinforcing that they are essential to the university," Stirrett said.

Prior to getting to know staff members working for Ferris' Facilities management, most people might not understand how essential they truly are. For each



Photo by: Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

Custodial Supervisor Kevin Jackson files paperwork and Delegates employees from his office.

object on campus there must also be at least one person who understands how to repair, maintain and clean it.

"Think of the 90-100 buildings that are on campus that have to be maintained by half a dozen people," Tom Potrykus, Supervisor of Carpentry, Paint and Locksmithing, said. "We've got two locksmiths, so they're taking care of all the locks, and we've got three carpenters to take care of everything from ceiling repairs, to doors, to hardware, to you name it. That's all there is... Any major repairs are done by the carpentry staff."

Over the past few years, Facilities Management has taken several massive budget cuts and has been forced

to downsize several times. Despite this, they have persevered.

"We won, in 2018, a distinguished staff award," Jackson said. "We totally revamped the working level within the residence halls because of downsizing. We've maintained a 97% approval rating with students living inside the residence halls."

One of the most difficult realities that Facilities Management has had to face recently is the workload brought on by COVID-19 and the budget cuts combined. With new regulations put in place by Ferris and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, commonly used tools, workspaces and items must be regularly

disinfected. This greatly slows the work process for all.

Custodial Services, on the other hand, took on the responsibility of being the front-line defenders for students and staff against COVID-19. Each building on campus is regularly cleaned and disinfected to insure the health and safety of the students, faculty and staff on campus. With such a small staff, keeping such a large campus in tip top shape is no easy feat. Nevertheless, they still manage to maintain and improve the university with each passing day.

"The thing that I would ask for is just a little bit of understanding," Potrykus said. "If someone doesn't get their waste basket emptied, you know, maybe they're used to getting it emptied on a daily basis and now it's every other day, or maybe it's every week. I'd ask for some compassion and understanding from our end users, the customers, the faculty, staff and students. It's because we've been hit so hard with budget cuts. We're being asked to do more with less."

Facilities Management receives 20-30 work orders on campus per day, which totals out to an average of nearly 200 work orders per week. Each work order is then prioritized by necessity and assigned to their respective crews.

"We always prioritize life safety first," Joe Haupt, the senior project manager for Facilities Management, said. "If there's something that can harm the students, faculty or staff members, that's going to get addressed prior. Way before somebody that needs to get a lightbulb changed in their office."

One of the biggest mottos for Facilities Management is that the students are their highest priority. Without them, they wouldn't be here. However, the exact opposite is equally as true. The students at Ferris need Facilities Management, just as much as Facilities Management needs them.

Without Facilities Management, lawns would never be mowed, buildings would be in shambles and in complete disarray and living conditions would be unsafe. Thanks to Facilities Management, Ferris' true foundation, the university has been standing tall and strong since 1884.

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OPINIONS

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EDITOR'S COLUMN: Relationships

By Brendan Sanders

The other night, my friends and I had an interesting conversation about how everyone we knew was posting photos in relationships.

"How come they get to find happiness and we don't? What are we doing wrong?" they asked.

All I could do was sit back and think. They really wanted someone to be with, an actual relationship. Yet, when I do my own soul searching, I have no desire to be in that position right now.

Ultimately, I don't really want to be in a relationship with anyone at this time. I don't want a girlfriend and I don't want a boyfriend. Right now I want no part in that. I've spent many nights wondering why.

The first reason is that I don't have a lot of experience being in a relationship. Yes, I went to a dance with a girl in high school and we went and had dinner a few times. But that's about all I have. So the learning curve I have right now on how to properly take care of someone's needs would ultimately not be fair to them.

I'm most likely going to say the wrong thing, or do the wrong thing, or ignore them at the worst time. I did this a lot growing up,

so who's to say I won't do this in a normal relationship? Would someone be ok with accepting all the mistakes I'm bound to make in a relationship? Is it fair to ask them to do that?

This leads me to the second issue. Time.

One thing I know is that I don't have the time to put the proper work into learning and maintaining a healthy relationship with any potential partner. It's no secret that relationships are hard work, and the last thing I want to do is hurt someone because I don't have enough time for them. It's not fair to them in that regard.

I try my hardest to be fair in everything that I do, so it would be hypocritical of me to not be fair to the other person in a relationship with me. They should not be the one who has to do the heavy lifting to keep the partnership going. Yet, right now, I don't see a way that it wouldn't go in that direction.

I still feel pressure to get in a relationship, or at least try to be with someone. College is probably my best chance to go out and find a partner. This is my last year here, so this year is my last chance to find someone while here in Big Rapids. Yet, I don't have the time, nor the desire to risk hurting someone that I

care about because I can't handle a schedule that watches me try to do different things every night of the week.

But what if this is my only chance to be with someone? I doubt I'll have a lot of opportunities to find a nice person to spend my time with once I get out of here. Most likely I'm going to be moving back home, and while I love my home town, everybody knows me.

Ferris has been my chance to differentiate the adult me from who I was growing up. I've become more social, I'm not just the quiet kid who like to make people smile. Not anymore anyways. I've done everything I've wanted to accomplish here, except find somebody to be with. Maybe that's one failure I'm going to have to live with to avoid hurting the people I do care about.

I worry that I'm always going to be this way. Placing productivity over personal relationships may lead to material gains, but what's the point if I have one to share it with?

Over the course of the next semester, focusing on relationships outside of my inner circle is something that needs to be done.

Party Animals



Comic by: | Angelica Rosenthal

GOT AN OPINION?

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1. Think of a topic that you feel strongly about.
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DIVIDED

OPINIONS

YES

Q:

Is TikTok's personalized content worth the potential security issues?

NO



Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

Home sweet home

While I may wake up hoping for a “bones day” courtesy of Noodle the pug, there is so much more to TikTok's ultra-personal algorithm that keeps me scrolling.

I used to be incredibly opposed to TikTok, I contently groaned that it lacked the exact feature we now debate. I thought I was going to be launched into a cookie cutter, endless scroll wasteland where I'd only ever see the D'amelio's and their accompanying posse. However, once I gave it a chance, I found my social media home.

The algorithm is exactly what drew me to TikTok. I got bored on Instagram quickly because the following feed was too random for my taste and the explore page didn't know me at all. I get bored with Twitter quickly because sometimes it's too much reading for the social media mood I'm in and so TikTok just checked all the boxes for me.

How the algorithm works isn't that surprising either. According to TikTok: “The system recommends content by ranking videos based on a combination of factors — starting from interests you express as a new user and adjusting for things you indicate you're not interested in, too”.

The factors mentioned above include user interactions, i.e., the videos you like, the comments you post and the content you create, video information like the hashtags used, the sound, the effect, and the caption, and finally device and account settings, more basic stuff like country, region, and language.

The For You Page curation doesn't stop there though, it also considers things like interest indicators. Things like if you watched the video all the way to the end, if you opened and interacted with the comments, if you swiped over and looked at the users account and how many times you watched the video before you scrolled.

All of this to say, I have found my social media home. I have found communities that I personally connect with, and I have made meaningful friendships through this platform because it served me content so accurately.

But, with great power comes great responsibility. I'll be the first to admit my screen time for TikTok is quite high, but I also must take that with a grain of salt because if the app didn't exist, it would be replaced with something else. Furthermore, for people who are less comfortable with their TikTok usage, there are several failsafes in place.

First, there will be a gentle nudge to move on from TikTok from a video that will appear on your FYP. If this is too subtle, there are other options like the built-in “Digital Wellbeing”. This includes a time limit users can place on their TikTok usage that can only be bypassed with a passcode.

As for parents, they can utilize “Family Pairing” which allows them to do the aforementioned restrictions but also change their child's privacy settings.

The hyper-specific algorithm can have my data because I'm home.



Jessica Oakes
Special Editions Editor

Gone too far

Either the TikTok algorithm is truly making me concerned for the future of media consumption, or today is just another “no bones” day.

Anyone who understood that reference probably spends a good chunk of their time exploring the infinite scroll of their TikTok For You Page. Or, should I say, trying to stop exploring?

TikTok is intentionally addictive, as are most social media platforms. What sets this one apart from the rest, though, is its fine-tuned algorithm. By paying attention to users' hashtags, sounds, liked posts, followed accounts and even the amount of time spent watching each video, TikTok curates personalized content to a chilling degree.

According to TechCrunch, TikTok began collecting faceprints, voiceprints and other forms of biometric metadata in the summer of 2021. TikTok does not clearly explain what these things are, or why they are necessary. While the company does state that their information collection is bound to U.S. laws, it does not specify federal or state. This is concerning because only a select few states have passed biometric privacy laws.

The user experience design also keeps people engaged. The icons are small, advertisements are limited and the content itself takes up the phone's entire screen. All this adds to the time-cancelling vortex of the app.

Through my experience of talking to Gen-Z kids, and being one myself, I know cyber security is not the most pertinent issue to us. I often hear people ask why they should care about their information being shared when they have nothing to hide.

Personally, I am most disturbed by the way TikTok's content can become so personalized that what the user sees defines what the user likes. This is completely backwards.

People somewhat harmlessly talk about which side of the app they are on. These sides have evolved far beyond the original “straight TikTok” vs. “alt TikTok” debate. They can be as specific as “axolotl-Tok,” or Andrew Garfield's angry monologue from “The Social Network.”

Because our spaces on the app are thoroughly tailored to what we want to see, we stop questioning things. We take what is given to us. This constant presentation of individually related content is pushing young users to extreme corners of both the app and political ideology.

One article from Media Matters details a small study showing how quickly TikTok users are shown hateful and violent content. By initially interacting with transphobic content, one person behind this study settled into a new echo chamber. The study used transphobia as the “gateway prejudice.” From there, TikTok began suggesting content that was homophobic, misogynistic and so on. The study concluded that one user could be presented with white supremacist imagery, fascist rhetoric and incitement of violence in only four hours of scrolling.

As someone who has jokingly tweeted the words, “why would I date when nobody will ever know me like the TikTok algorithm,” I can not pass judgment on everyone who uses the app. Still, I believe that the luxury of razor sharp, personalized content does not outweigh the genuine danger that accompanies it.

SPORTS

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

Anchor down



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Ferris beat Grand Valley to win the Anchor-Bone Classic.

Ferris takes down Grand Valley in Anchor-Bone Classic

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

A record number of fans at Lubbers Stadium was not enough to get Grand Valley a win in the Anchor-Bone Classic.

The 51st meeting between the Lakers and Bulldogs on the gridiron certainly lived up to the hype. 17,007 fans packed into Lubbers Stadium to watch the number two ranked Ferris State Bulldogs defeat the number six ranked Grand Valley State Lakers 35-28.

This was Ferris's fifth straight victory over the Lakers, and to do it in front of a record number of fans was extra special for senior quarterback Jared Bernhardt.

"It was an awesome environment," Bernhardt said. "This is what I wanted to experience playing college football."

The game started with the Lakers grinding out a few short yardage plays. They soon decided to test Ferris' defense deep down field. Thanks to pressure from linebacker Liam Daly, Grand Valley's pass was hurried and intercepted by Alex Thomas.

"We watched and studied film for two weeks," Thomas said. "We were able to get a great look at what they liked to do. I believe that was the reason we were able to make plays."

The Bulldogs took over on offense and welcomed Bernhardt back under center in his return from a knee injury in week two. Bernhardt completed his first two passes until an errant snap forced a Ferris State punt. The Lakers responded with a nine play, 70-yard drive to score the game's first points, capped off by a 33-yard run by quarterback Cade Peterson.

"Grand Valley brought it to a whole other level," head coach Tony Annese said. "Give credit to their fans and players."

Ferris' second drive began with another botched snap, leaving the offense with a 2nd down and long. After two huge runs

from Tyler Minor and Bernhardt, Ferris converted to continue the drive and eventually find the endzone on a 33-yard fade pass to sophomore Tyrese Hunt-Thompson.

Grand Valley began to drive on their next possession. Backed up in their own redzone, the Bulldog defense stood tall and came up with an interception from Caleb Smith.

Their fan noise became a factor on the Bulldog's ensuing possession. Ferris committed four consecutive false start penalties. Annese said the noise was expected, but still a challenge.

"We practiced snap counts and tried to have a plan," Annese said. "Since we motion so much, it's hard to do."

Ferris' offense collected themselves to pick up a first down. Bernhardt then began to lead the passing attack, completing three consecutive passes to put the Bulldogs inside the 20-yard line. Bernhardt then connected with Xavier Wade for a touchdown.

Tempers flared near the end of the first half. Following a Peterson throw away, both teams received unnecessary roughness penalties.

Bernhardt was intercepted on Ferris' next drive. The Lakers began to take over and appeared to score on a run from Ferris' two-yard line. However, the Bulldog defense forced a fumble and Thomas returned it 98 yards for a touchdown.

"I was in shock," junior defensive back Amere Blake said. "I didn't see the initial fumble due to the angle of the play. When I saw Alex running down the sideline, I got hype and started running down to celebrate. It was a great play and gave us a ton of momentum going into halftime."

Ferris wasted no time to find their groove offensively in the second half. On a roll-out scramble, Bernhardt made one of the game's biggest plays with a 54-yard pass to CJ Jefferson. Later in the drive, the Bulldogs extended the lead to 28-7 on a seven-yard

run from Minor.

Grand Valley battled back from down three scores. On their next drive, Peterson found Young-Walls on a wide-open wheel route for his second total touchdown of the game.

"I thought Peterson played really well," Annese said. "It's a new change with Grand Valley having a dual threat quarterback. Their offense coordinator did a good job."

Ferris was stopped cold by the Lakers linebackers on their next drive. Grand Valley ensued with their third touchdown of the game, capitalizing on two Ferris penalties.

Early in the fourth quarter, Grand Valley continued to ride the momentum. Facing a fourth and one at their own 30-yard line, the Lakers executed a fake punt and converted with a 20-yard gain. Despite the momentum in favor of GVSU, the Bulldogs buckled down and stopped the Lakers with a sack from sophomore Ian Hall.

"We had our backs against the wall a few times, but we did not give in," Blake said. "The turnovers gave our team confidence for the rest of the game."

With 9:50 to go, Ferris went back to the ground game through Bernhardt. While two false start penalties set the Bulldogs back, Bernhardt targeted Marcus Taylor for a huge completion and pass interference penalty to move the Bulldogs across mid-field.

With five minutes to go, FSU faced a crucial fourth down and one. With the field goal unit on the field, Ferris faked the kick. Kicker Sy Barnett threw to Sam Girodat for a big gain down to the two-yard line. After their ninth false start of the game, Minor punched in his second seven-yard touchdown run of the game.

"In '18, Steve Casula called the pass back to Jayru (Campbell)," Annese said on the fake field goal. "I tried to one-up him on that one. I'm so disappointed we didn't score a touchdown."

Trailing 35-21 with 2:19, the Lakers began to use their tempo offense to throw down the field. With just over two minutes to go, a tipped pass found the hands of Laker receiver Hunter Rison to cut the lead to just seven.

Thomas recovered the ensuing onside kick for Ferris. Minor and Bernhardt then picked up 15 yards to move the chains and run out the clock in victory formation.

"[It was a] good overall team win," Bernhardt said in his post-game press conference. "We knew it was going to be a brawl and needed to put four quarters together."

In his first game back from injury, the two-time GLIAC player of the week was 12-16 passing with 217 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. He also led the Bulldogs with 116 yards rushing on 20 carries, followed by Minor adding six carries for 40 yards and two TD's. Jefferson led Ferris with 68 yards receiving on three receptions with teammates Wade, Hunt-Thompson and Taylor adding 67, 43 and 39 yards respectively. Wade and Hunt-Thompson each added a touchdown.

Major Dedmond led the Bulldogs with nine total tackles, followed by Cyntell Williams with eight and Liam Daly with six. Thomas added two turnovers for the defense with an interception and a 98-yard fumble recovery. Blake contributed to forcing a fumble and Smith added an interception. Hall and Murphy combined for the Bulldog's two sacks.

"Our guys rose to the occasion," Annese said. "This wasn't just an average Grand Valley environment. I'm glad I'm still standing after that intensity."

Ferris improved to 6-0 overall and 3-0 in GLIAC play. The Bulldogs will take the field next on Oct. 23, where they will head up north to face Michigan Tech at 1 p.m. For more stats and information, visit the "Football" tab at www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com.

Bittersweet victory

Soccer sweeps weekend series

Joe Nagy
Freelance reporter

Ferris soccer celebrated senior day in fashion with back-to-back wins over their weekend opponents.

The Bulldogs stayed hot over the weekend with a close overtime win on Friday, Oct. 15 against Northern Michigan. Then they held senior day on Sunday, Oct. 17, and dominated Wisconsin-Parkside 5-0.

The weekend sweep over Northern Michigan and Wisconsin-Parkside bumped the Bulldog's record to 10-1-2 on the season. They are 9-0-2 after their opening day loss against Findlay.

The Bulldogs played through the cold and rain against Northern Michigan on Friday, Oct. 15. Northern Michigan struck first, putting Ferris in a deficit for just the second time all year.

Head coach Greg Henson commented on how the team was able to rally back.

"The resiliency is there," Henson said. "This team continues to fight and work hard on all facets of the game, regardless of the score line."

With less than two minutes to halftime, junior defender Nikki May lined up for a free-kick just outside of the box and notched the Bulldog's first goal.

Northern Michigan broke the scoring drought to start the second half. Midfielder Brooker Pietila gave the Wildcats the lead 2-1 at 64:39.

May got on the scorecard again, sending a high cross into the box for senior forward Grace VerHage to head into the bottom left corner.

In the 104th minute, VerHage dumped the ball off to freshman forward Lindsay Cole, who buried the game winner for her first goal of the season.

"It was a great feeling," Cole said. "This was my first overtime goal. Especially when all the girls stormed the field and started hugging me afterward."

Ferris led the Wildcats in both total shots, 23-20, and shots on goal, 10-8.

Ferris took the field again for senior day Sunday, Oct. 17, taking on Parkside. Ferris Athletics honored the Bulldogs and their parents with a special ceremony before kickoff.

The Bulldogs applied consistent pressure on the Rangers from the start of the game, rarely seeing the ball in their own half. VerHage did not wait long to open the scoring for the Bulldogs, burying a pass from junior forward Isabella Zamborini at 10:52.

Just nine minutes later, senior forward Pia Nagel slotted her shot past the keeper to lengthen the Bulldog's lead to 2. The goal marked Nagel's eighth of the season.

Ferris got one more goal before the half was over. Sophomore midfielder Jessie Bandyk's shot found the back of the net after it was deflected off a Parkside defender.

After the break, Zamborini set up a ball for Verhage, who tacked on her team-leading ninth goal of the season.

"I'm just playing with a lot of heart, and I'm playing with some amazing teammates, so it makes it easy," VerHage said.

In the waning minutes, sophomore defender Sarah Katinas scored her first collegiate goal.

The Bulldog's, out-shot the Rangers 37-5, including 20-5 in shots on goal.

Ferris will face Purdue-Northwest at home Friday, Oct. 22.



Photo by: Angie Rosenthal | Freelance Photographer

The Bulldogs won both games over the weekend, including on senior day.



Photo by: Joe Nagy | Sports Reporter

Area 5 Special Olympians and Ferris hockey competed in floor hockey in their annual poly hockey event.

Ferris hockey finds a new rival

Ferris hockey faced Area 5 Special Olympians in annual poly floor hockey game

D'Andre Head
Freelance Reporter

The fans in attendance at the Student Recreation Center on Oct. 12 got the chance to do something rare in the world of sports.

They rooted for both teams.

For the first time since 2019, Area 5 Special Olympians played against Ferris' hockey team in a competitive floor hockey contest. The Special Olympians came out with a victory 6-5 in overtime.

Area 5's victory boosted their record to 3-0 against Ferris hockey. Their first victory against Ferris came in the inaugural game in 2018. In 2019, the Special Olympians also emerged victorious over Ferris hockey.

As both teams stepped on the court, the crowd full of students and community members shared continuous support for the groups as they traded goals throughout the nine regulation periods. The game was tied at the end of regulation, forcing an overtime period. The Special Olympians scored first

and left the event with a 6-5 victory.

University President David Eisler was pleased to attend the event.

"I'm very excited to be here," Eisler said. "This is a great event. Whenever we can use our athletic teams to help build relationships and create a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these young people is a fabulous thing."

Ferris hockey head coach Bob Daniels was thrilled to have his team participate in the event. For the first time, he got to watch his nephew join Ferris' hockey team and play alongside the Bulldogs.

"I think this is an awesome event with our guys getting out there, enjoying the game and looking forward to it every single year," Daniels said. "I got to watch my nephew, Danny, play, and that to me is something special. Seeing everyone play and the Special Olympians enjoying themselves is just wonderful."

Dakota Young, president of Special Olympics College Club, organized this event for the sole purpose of enjoyment and to bring

family and friends together. Young said that Ferris embraced and supported every Olympian that came to play.

"This event had a significant impact, not only on our athletes, but our community and students as well," Young said. "We had President Eisler in attendance, and WZZM 13 came out to spread inclusion, and that really shows how Ferris is making big steps. This event was hard to put together, and it was amazing to see athletes get together and to see the RSOs, fraternities and even President Eisler come out to support us."

Because of COVID-19, the event did not take place in 2020. However, sophomore Ferris hockey forward Mitch Deelstra looks forward to the event running every year from here on out.

"It's fun and something we're happy to participate in," Deelstra said. "It just takes the little things to make to make an impact, so for us to come out here is important for us and some good people."

Deelstra said the event is also a good chance for the Bulldogs to interact with

the community and participating athletes, especially with a small break before the team's next hockey game.

Sophomore goaltender Logan Stein enjoyed the event as well. Part of the event was a fundraiser for Special Olympics. Anyone in attendance of the game could donate a dollar and take a shot on Stein in goal. For the shot on goalie, the event raised \$38.

"It was nice to see everyone donated a dollar for all those shots," Stein said. "It is nice to know the money is going towards the foundation and a good cause, and it's a lot of fun for both teams."

Tyler Cwshepler, a student at Ferris and Special Olympic athlete, was pleased with the event.

"Today was fairly good. I had a lot of fun," Cwshepler said.

Area 5 will look to improve upon their series record when the event runs next year.

Sports Editor Brody Keiser contributed to this article.

Week 7 Fantasy Football

Brandon Wirth
Austin Arquette
Sports Reporters

Fantasy football will only get tougher to make decisions on who to start and sit, which is why we are here for you. The challenges this year have been crazy and with injuries all around the league, players changing teams due to trades and even bye weeks starting, we have all the updates to keep your fantasy teams in the win column or right the ship to a tough season that everyone has dealt with so far.

Austin's Picks:

Two players you should **start** this week:

Antonio Brown – Two weeks of strong performances in Miami and Philadelphia, Brown was targeted over 20 times combined and continues to prove to be one of Brady's best weapons. Even though Brown shares targets with Mike Evans, Chris Godwin, the tight-ends and running backs, Brown has solidified his role in this offense as he scores touchdowns and will look to continue to help Tampa's offense in Chicago. As defenses must cover all the weapons Tampa has Brown is the easy forgotten man that hurts the opposition but helps your fantasy teams, plug him in and watch the points total up.

Josh Jacobs – I may sound crazy to start a Las Vegas player after all their scandal issues with their coach, however, Jacobs is finally healthy and plays a weak Philadelphia defense who struggles to defend the run. The Raiders have given Jacobs plenty of opportunities to run the ball especially when they get close to the endzone. With three touchdowns on the season so far, Jacobs will look to punch in more against the Eagles who allowed Leonard Fournette to collect 30 fantasy points last Thursday.

Two players you should **sit** this week:

Daniel Jones – Perhaps a week where the Giants can be healthy again would be beneficial for Jones, but they play Carolina, who has been very good on the defensive side of the ball this year, and only improved with recent trade for Stephen Gilmore to help their cornerback position. I think that the Panthers will prove to be too much for the Giants who are struggling to get away from injuries, and Jones will struggle to move the ball without Barkley and healthy wide-outs.

Ryan Tannehill – Even though the Titans are playing Kansas City, who ranks 32 in overall defense against quarterbacks, I don't see Tannehill providing many fantasy points this season. I believe it would be more beneficial to start Derrick Henry over everyone else in Tennessee's offense as they have all been injury prone. Of course, Henry is the only proven fantasy star. Kansas City will look to right their defensive troubles to make a push for the playoffs, and I believe it will start with the Titans game. Tannehill has struggled to throw this season and even proves he can rush. The Titans look to trust Henry more than anyone to win them games and that won't change until he gets hurt, if ever.

One player you could **stream** this week:

Jaylen Waddle – It helps that the potential return of Tua Tagovailoa in week six allowed Waddle to have a chance to return to form that he posted the first three weeks of the season. Waddle and the Dolphins play a weak Miami defense and with Tua being able to come back and develop a better connection with Waddle the Dolphins will look to get back on track after their London trip as they play at home with a healthy roster. Waddle is ranked third in targets on this young Miami team and that will only increase the more Tua gets comfortable with being back. Even if Tua doesn't return, Jacoby Brissett will look for Waddle to get this offense rolling to a win.

Brandon's Picks:

Two players you should **start** this week:

Jonathon Taylor – Ever since the whispers surfaced of Marlon Mack being on the trade block, Taylor seems to have turned his game up two notches. The undisputed leader of the Colts backfield has run wild in his last three games. With over 300 yards and 4 TD's, the former Badger has boosted the Colts from 19th to 13th in rushing yards. With Indianapolis having some struggles offensively in the redzone, facing the 49ers on the road seems like a tough task on paper. However, San Francisco has allowed the 6th highest opposing redzone scoring in the NFL, giving Taylor owners confidence for him to keep his scoring streak going in Week 7.

Kyle Pitts – Despite finding himself on our sit list in Week 2, Pitts has started to grow his role as the season progresses. Absences from top receivers Calvin Ridley and Russell Gage have given Pitts plenty of targets to bulk his receiving stats. After tough opening games against the Eagles and Buccaneers, an ease in schedule has allowed the Falcons offense to become more comfortable and confident since Week 3. With Atlanta coming off a bye week, it is likely that Ridley and Gage will return to the field. Don't let this stop you from placing Pitts back into the lineup against a broken Dolphins defense that has given up the 12th most points to tight ends this season.

Two players you should **sit** this week:

Elijah Moore – I love Moore's long-term potential to be a great player in the NFL. With that being said, I don't love his projections against fellow AFC East rival New England. When these two teams faced off earlier this season, it was obvious the Jets were in for an uphill battle. The Patriots' zone defense gave Zach Wilson's fits from the opening drive. Although Moore had his most productive game of the season in the Week 2 showdown (4 catches for 47 yards), this was predominately due to Corey Davis' hands problems early on and the absence of Jamison Crowder. With their main slot man back and a rejuvenation from the bye week, expect a change in gameplan that could look more towards a slower tempo and fewer big passing plays.

Jared Goff – While a former super bowl starter, the five-year veteran has not proved to be a viable fantasy option so far this year. Goff has been frustrating to Lions fans like myself with his inability to take care of the football. The former Rams has turned the ball over 8 times this season, which is tied for the 3rd highest amongst quarterbacks. Detroit's passing attack has look subpar this season with the absence of a true #1 WR. With a revenge game against the Rams on tap for Week 6, it may be intriguing to see a potential shootout. To that idea, I would say don't get your hopes up.

One player you could **stream** this week:

Alex Collins – With Chris Carson out for the next few games on IR, the backfield has opened free for the former Raven. Collins turned in a great performance against Pittsburgh with 101 yards on 20 carries. The fact that fellow backs Travis Homer and DeeJay Dallas didn't receive many touches is a good sign for Collins moving forward as the bell cow. Seattle will face the Saints in Week 7, which can bring concern considering their stout run defense, but Collins' volume and red zone attention should be enough to near replicate his performance from Week 6.

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