

The Ferris State Torch

NINETY YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of Oct. 27 - Nov. 2, 2021

www.fsutorch.com

Longtime Big Rapids resident runs for mayor



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Cochran



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor

Cochran has been involved in local government for six years in Big Rapids.

You can find the absentee voter ballot box outside Big Rapids City Hall.

Jennifer Cochran discusses why students should be involved in local government

Rebecca Vanderkooi

Opinions Editor

Abigail Maskill worked at the Torch in 2020 as a production manager.

Longtime Big Rapids resident, Jennifer Cochran, is running for mayor after six years serving in local government.

Cochran began in local government in 2015 after retiring from teaching and administering a program at Central Michigan University.

"I got started in city government to start learning more hands on how we function. Starting on the planning commission was an excellent opportunity, and then I had the opportunity to move on to the city commission, which is where I have been for four years," Cochran said.

Her governing strategy is quite simple, she focuses on listening, learning and leading. She explained that as the current mayor is finishing his final term, she thought it was a suitable time to take this next step in leadership by running for office.

"I believe strongly in making informed decisions and doing my research, I try very

hard not to impose my personal agenda in my decisions because I think that's very important for public servants not to do," Cochran said.

Cochran and her husband Dr. Richard Cochran moved to Big Rapids in 1998 when Dr. Cochran was hired as dean of the library at Ferris and tasked to help build Flite.

Together, the couple lives near Ferris and regularly interacts with students. Cochran emphasizes the importance of viewing students as members of the Big Rapids community when they are here for school.

"It's vitally important for everyone to take their right to vote seriously and get their voice heard, I always encourage students who are residents here to make sure they are registered," Cochran said.

Cochran explained that Big Rapids city government meetings provide an opportunity for the public to speak about issues they are experiencing. A few times liaisons for Ferris student government have come to speak, and Cochran hopes for that to continue and for there to be more communication between students and the local government.

"Being involved in student government has given me the opportunity to voice concerns and opportunities on campus. By bringing awareness to many events, opportunities and issues occurring on campus, I've been given multiple opportunities to collaborate with other students of different backgrounds," Lucy Arbanas, a member of Ferris student government, said.

Abigail Maskill, a Ferris senior, has been involved in local government in her hometown of Elkhart, Indiana since 2019. She believes that it is valuable for students to be involved in their local governments, especially through voting.

"Students should be involved [in local government] because we are the next generation, and if we want change, it starts at home," Maskill said.

Cochran has many plans in mind if she is elected for office. She explained that her primary responsibility is to keep the city fiscally sound. Additionally, she plans to continue improvements to the water system in town and replacing lead pipes.

Another priority is bringing more people to Big Rapids. Cochran said that it is im-

portant to have available and affordable housing, job opportunities and economic development.

"We want to see more families moving into town. Over the last 10 years we have lost quite a few people out of Big Rapids," Cochran said.

Jonathan Eppley was elected to the Big Rapids City Commission in 2017 and is currently running for re-election, he has worked alongside Cochran for the past four years.

"She is an intelligent, inquisitive and visionary person, who has done exemplary work as commissioner. It's for these qualities and more that I feel she would do an excellent job representing our city as mayor," Eppley said.

Both Eppley and Cochran emphasized the importance of researching candidates and making informed decisions when voting.

Jennifer Cochran encourages students to reach out to her with any questions or concerns while they reside in Big Rapids. Her email is jcochran@cityofbr.org.

Got news? Let us know.

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NEWS

Noah Kurkjian | News Editor | kurkjin@ferris.edu

Bonus shot, booster shot

Vaccinated individuals can increase their COVID-19 vaccine efficiency

Becca Witkowski
News Reporter

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have expanded eligibility for COVID-19 booster shots.

The CDC announced on Oct. 21 that booster shots were available for the Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. Each vaccine has its own booster, but individuals can mix and match the booster and original vaccine. The booster shots are designed to improve the efficiency of the vaccine.

“There are now booster recommendations for all three available COVID-19 vac-

cines in the United States,” a CDC press release on Oct. 21 said. “Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Some people may have a preference for the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster. [The] CDC’s recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.”

The requirements for eligibility vary between vaccines. For J&J, individuals over 18 years of age are eligible for the booster two months after their initial vaccine. Pfizer and Moderna, on the other hand, have limited eligibility.

Six months after their initial vaccina-

tions with either Pfizer or Moderna, individuals 65 years of age or older are eligible for the booster shot. Individuals 18 years of age or older are eligible for the booster shot if they have underlying medical conditions, work in a high risk setting or live in high risk or long-term care settings.

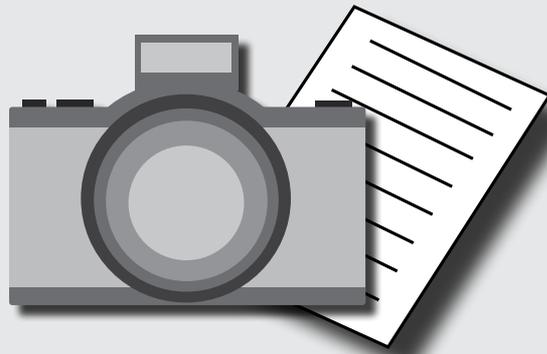
In a statement released by the Ferris re-entry committee on Oct. 10, before the booster shot eligibility was extended to include all three vaccines, they announced that Ferris anticipates receiving doses of the booster shot at some point in the future. The committee encourages those eligible to make an appointment to receive the booster shot.

The CDC’s website lists schools as a high-risk setting, so it is possible that vaccinated students living on campus may be eligible for the booster shot. Students looking to get vaccinated can make an appointment at Birkam Health Center by calling (231)-591-2614 and selecting option two.

Those eligible for the booster shot can schedule an appointment at the District Health Department #10 by calling 888-217-3904. An appointment can also be scheduled online at www.dhd10.org/schedule

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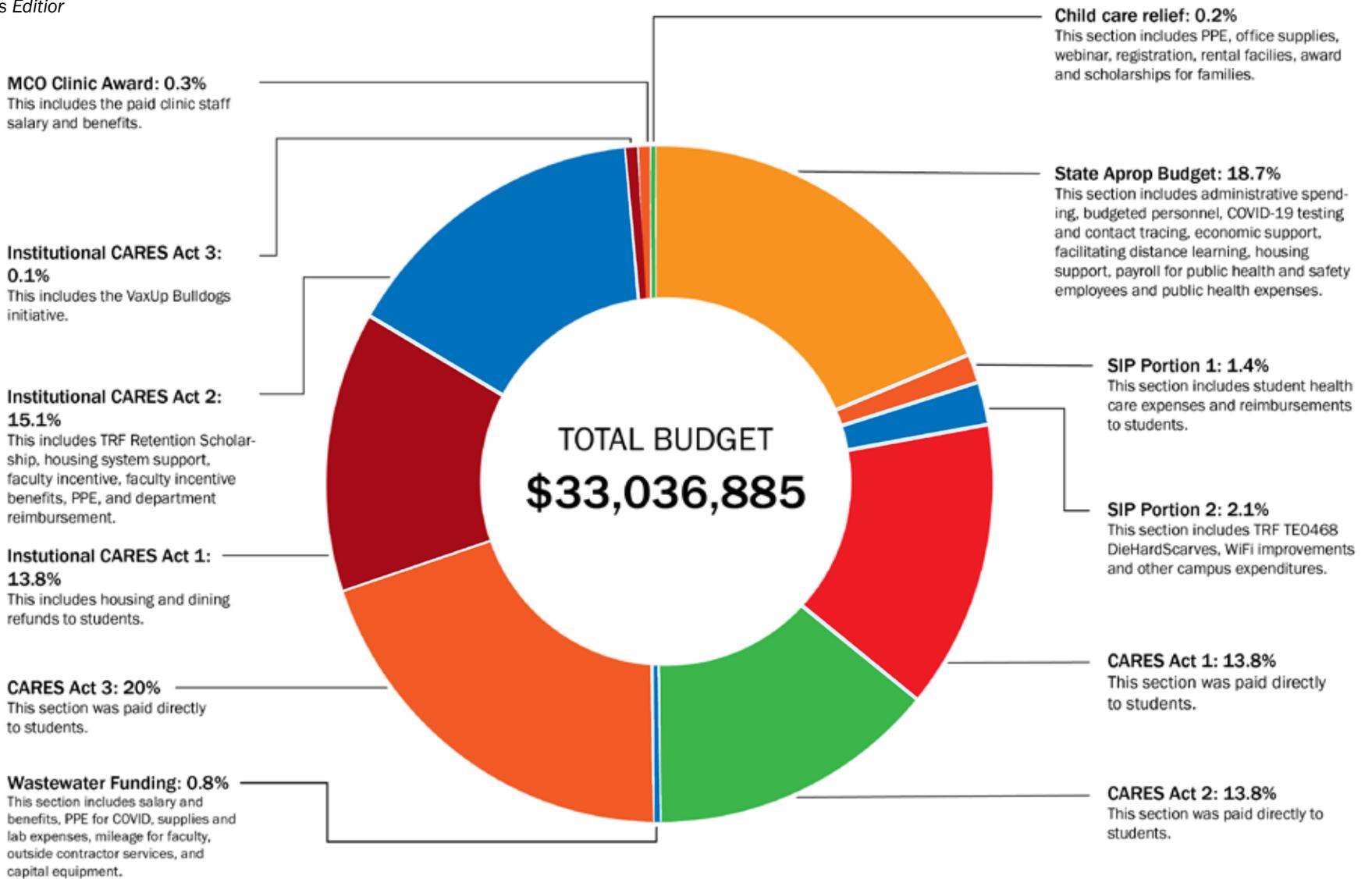
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BRENDAN SANDERS

Where it all went

A breakdown of Ferris’ \$30 Million COVID-19 budget

Rebecca VanderKooi
Opinions Editor



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

A full story on Ferris’ official COVID-19 budget is coming in a future edition of the Torch. Data courtesy of Ferris State University.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

DETROIT - Hindus rallied in metro Detroit to protest the attacks in Bangladesh according to the Detroit Free Press.

Hundreds gathered outside the Michigan Kalibari temple along 9 Mile Road with signs reading "Religion is not a crime", "We want justice in Bangladesh" and "Stop killing Hindus in Bangladesh".

According to media reports, Human Rights Watch, and Freep, hundreds of Hindu temples, homes, and businesses were vandalized or razed during Durga Puja, a religious and cultural event that's the most important holiday for the Hindu community in Bangladesh. Eight people, including some priests, were reportedly killed. Hindus are a minority in Bangladesh, making up about 9% of the population, down from about 14% when the nation was formed in 1971.

"We want justice for Hindus in Bangladesh," Sanjoy Deb of Hamtramck, president of Bangladeshi Youth Council, told the crowd according to Freep. "Stop the attacks."

The attacks in Bangladesh erupted after an extremist in the Muslim community placed a copy of the Quran at a Hindu site during Durga Puja on Oct 13, the BBC reported. A photo was taken and then spread, falsely alleging that the Quran was insulted by some Hindus.

"I know how much it pains all of us when we are attacked because of our identity," State Rep. Padma Kuppa, D-Troy, told the crowd according to Freep. "When I came here as a graduate student, they called me dot-head, so I understand we still face bias. And we feel strongly where anywhere in the world there is violence against a particular person because of their identity, particularly temples and people who are worshipping, who have faith in non-violence."

GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

SUDAN - Citizens have taken to the streets in protest in Sudan as the military is currently staging a coup.

The military took over and dissolved civilian rule, declared a state of emergency and locked up political leaders.

The coup leader, Gen Abdel Fattah Burhan, has blamed political infighting.

Protesters poured into the streets of the capital city, Khartoum, Monday demanding that civilian rule be reinstated.

More are expected to join the protests in the coming days as calls to action outpour from political parties and professional unions.

Military and civilian leaders have not seen eye to eye since Omar al-Bashir was overthrown two years ago.

At press time, reportedly three people have been shot dead by the armed forces and more than 80 people are reported as injured.

It has been reported that nurses and doctors have refused to practice medicine in clinics and hospitals that have been taken under military rule.

Furthermore, all international flights

have been suspended, Khartoum's airport has been closed and internet is down across the country.

US - The White House has outlined their new policies on foreign travelers to the US.

The current plan is reopen the US border next month but requiring most travelers to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

"It is in the interests of the United States to move away from the country-by-country restrictions previously applied during the Covid-19 pandemic and to adopt an air travel policy that relies primarily on vaccination to advance the safe resumption of international air travel to the United States," Mr Biden's proclamation says.



ON THE RECORD

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

Stealing a studio pt. 2

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

The case is still open pending investigation.

They're reflective for a reason

Oct. 18, 9:49 p.m. - Officers stopped a vehicle who ran the stop sign in front of the pharmacy building going between 25 and 30 miles per hour. Driver cited with a civil infraction

Too fast, too... restricted

Oct. 24, 10:43 p.m. - An officer stopped someone in a parking lot after hearing screeching tires and observing reckless driving. The driver was in violation of his restricted license and was driving carelessly. The driver was arrested.

Stealing a studio pt. 2

Oct. 19, 3:03 p.m. - Someone stole a camera and cordless microphones from the press box at the women's soccer field.



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Ferris State Torch

Corrections

Spooked by sports

- Last week, we mistakenly used the incorrect photo caption and misidentified the subject of the photo. It should have read "Bradley Marek haunts maze participants with a prop chainsaw."

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



**BEING STREET:
DIY AS TRANS HISTORY**

JULES GILL-PETERSON
EMAIL: JGILLPE1@JHU.EDU
TWITTER: @GP_JLS

Photo courtesy of FSU LGBTQ YouTube

Those interested in watching the recording of this event can find it on the FSU LGBTQ YouTube channel.

Exploring transgender history

LGBTQ+ Resource Center presents Jules Gill-Peterson

Jerry Gaytan
News Reporter

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center organized a virtual event for LGBTQ History Month which featured guest speaker Jules Gill-Peterson.

On Wednesday, Oct. 20, author and associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh Dr. Gill-Peterson held a presentation titled "Being Street: DIY of Trans History." The presentation was split into three segments with a Q&A via Zoom. The event was organized by the LGBTQ+ Resource Center at Ferris by coordinator Sarah Doherty.

"The event was fascinating and informative, both of transgender history, current conversations, concerns and lived realities

of trans people," Doherty said.

Doherty explained that the presentation included more of Gill-Peterson's contemporary work and the importance of her work covering the trans community. The three segments of the presentation were titled "Another scum manifesto", "Idealizing trans women of color" and "Everybody knows, everybody knows."

The focus of the presentation covered Gill-Peterson's work on a new book titled "Gender Underground: A History of Trans DIY". It involved the conversation of the transgender community whose queer and trans lives are associated with the street life.

Gill-Peterson covers her research on medical gatekeeping and the racism affect-

ing transgender kids' access to gender affirming healthcare and institution "legitimacy." Gill-Peterson framed her presentation to center, historically contextualize, and "do right by" transgender women of color making meaning of their own life on their terms.

Gill-Peterson is an Associate Professor of English and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. She is also the author of "Histories of the Transgender Child" published by the University of Minnesota Press in 2018.

"Histories of the Transgender Child" has received the Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Nonfiction, and the Children's Literature Association Book Award, according to the University of Minnesota.

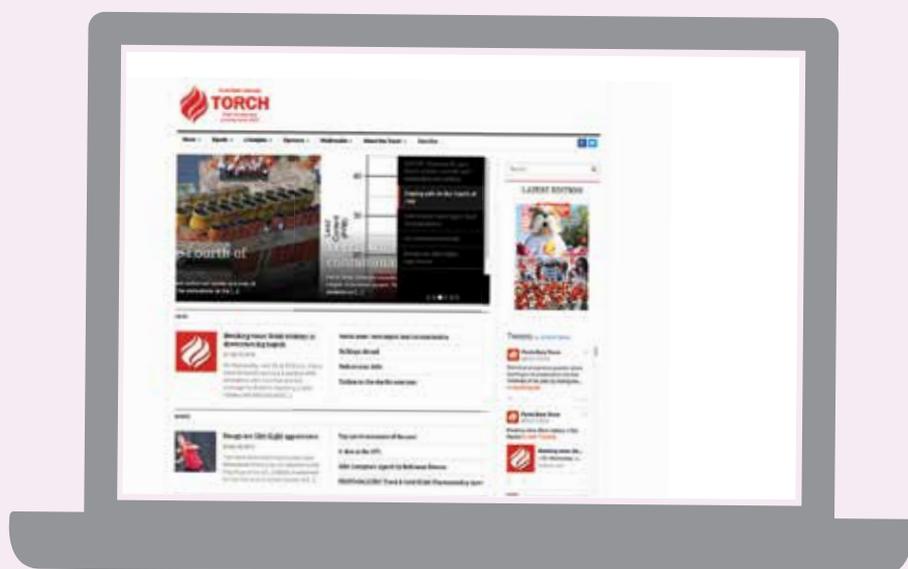
The University of Minnesota also stat-

ed that Gill-Peterson's work shattered the myth that transgender children didn't exist pre-twentieth century. Covering work from the 1920s and 70s regarding transgender children and the medicalization of trans people, and all sex and gender.

This event was recorded and can be viewed on the FSU LGBTQ+ Resource Center YouTube page.

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

FERRIS STATE TORCH



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- OR -

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OPINIONS

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EDITOR'S COLUMN: More to the party

By Brendan Sanders

Alright, since it's nearly election time, you get to hear my thoughts on politics.

It's that time of the year again. The time where politician's are usually playing their ads night and day across our television screens. Luckily, this year it's much quieter than in years past, being in an odd year, there's no mid-term elections that affect us. The biggest thing this year is the mayoral election, which is Nov. 2.

I've been upfront with everyone when it comes to talking politics, I don't like playing in them. I'll participate, such as last years election, but beyond that you won't see me advocating for anyone. Why?

Because right now, American politics is a joke. The whole system, from the voting process to the people we have to choose from is so messed up that it's bound to bite us in the butt in the future.

Both sides of the American political scale are so pushed into their respective corners that the majority of Americans have to choose between two extremes that don't necessarily represent what the believe in.

At least with this mayoral election, we have people that are actual residents of the

community. Local elections aren't nearly as big of an issue to me because most likely the people running are representative of their community.

As soon as you move to state politicians, it becomes a beauty contest of who can make themselves the most presentable to as many people as they can. They make promises they can't keep, they lie and they put on a fake smile to try to make themselves likable.

Beyond that, the two party system is a joke. No situation has two sides, especially in todays society. Take a look at the splits in American voter registration according to ballot-access.org, 48 million Americans registered with the Democratic party, 36 million registered with the Republican Party and 34 million were independent. 34 million people had to choose between two parties they may not have the same ideals as.

Most politicians have to decide black or white on many grey issues. If they choose wrong, then that's usually the end of the game for them. So they may fake their beliefs to get in the favor of public opinion.

We the people don't even know what we are getting.

How does Europe have more options for a democracy than the country that created this form of government? Great Britain has two major parties, but four others at least hold seats in parliament. Germany has eight parties holding seats in their government, representing all parts of the political scale.

If I had the opportunity to do anything to fix American politics, it would be simple. We would split both parties into two, creating a four party system that allows more options for Americans to decide what best represents them. There are four parties in Canada, eight in Mexico. There isn't a reason why only two parties should exist in one of the oldest democracys in the world.

Villeneuve's Dune: How to Adapt a Film

The success of the new novel to film adaption

Jeremy Wolfe
Freelance Reporter

Established novels turning to films are a dice roll. Sometimes you get "Harry Potter," sometimes you get "Percy Jackson." With turning written word into cinema, inevitably things must be changed, cut or adjusted to fit the medium. Add this on top of a past reputation as an impossible book to bring to the big screen, and you'd think "Dune" would find itself sinking to the bottom as another doomed adaptation of the sprawling saga. However, I am pleased to report that it exceeds expectations in ways that were never possible, and does so by sticking true to the source and keeping a firm grip on its run time.

In the past, Dune's issues stem from the fact that it is a 700 page novel that can take upwards of half a day to read through, and then taking that and compressing it into a two hour film. Add this to an already ill-received David Lynch film from the '80's and another similarly regarded miniseries in the early 2000's and this issue is still present. For Denis Villeneuve's "Dune," the film stays planted

in the first part of the original novel, and uses it's two hour runtime to the full extent to tell that part of the story alone. This gives it time to breathe, while also sticking true to the original material and telling a story about Paul Atreides and his family's fall from grace while taking over the spice production, as was present in the original novel. Much of what was implied in past adaptations is actually shown on screen, and the removal of extreme changes, such as turning the concept of 'Muad'Dib' into a weapon rather than just a name help the film feel more grounded and less in the realm of avant-garde cinema that Lynch attempted thirty years ago.

In addition to this, Villeneuve also takes advantage of today's modern lingo in films and taking advantage of a more naturalistic style in writing against the original novel and film's Shakespearean prose and extended sequences of thoughts. Translating these to film is hard to do so in a convincing way, and instead of doing that, Villeneuve takes this massive amount of dialogue and turns it in a more casual way that gets the same message

across without taking up minutes of precious screentime that can be better spent elsewhere. In so doing, he even adds characterization that wasn't present in the original story, such as Duncan Idaho becoming a joker and comic relief versus his original stoic and unassuming appearance in the novel. This helps strengthen each individual character's personality and make them memorable versus their one-off appearances in the original source, and also keeps the pace of the movie brisk.

All in all, Villeneuve's "Dune" has done the impossible: adapt

"Dune" to the big screen in a way that doesn't leave the audience scratching their heads wondering what the hell they just watched. That in itself is a remarkable achievement, but making it also a great film on top of that makes it stand tall amongst its predecessors, and is a great showcase of just how to make a great film from a book: do right by the source and change the bells and whistles to make it have just as much relevance today as it did fifty years ago.

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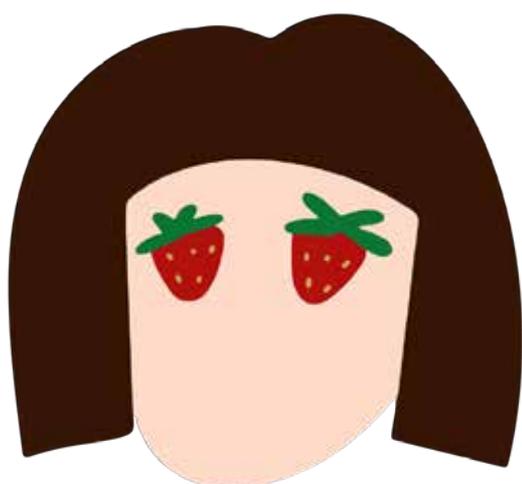
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BEST OF 2021 Wm 21 WEEDMARS

5 last-minute Halloween costumes

Cheap options to spice up your halloween

Rebecca VanderKooi
Opinions Editor



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

The Little Lad

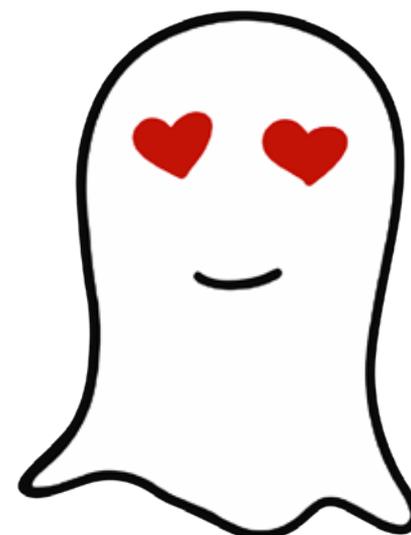
Dress up like the TikTok sensation by going to the store and getting a wig and a white blouse.



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelle | Production Assistant

Kim Kardashian at the Met Gala

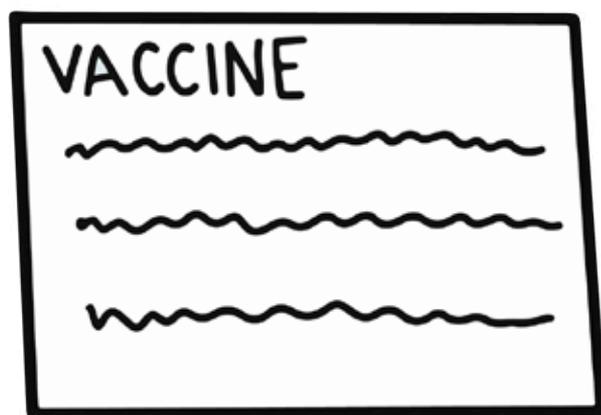
Put your hair in a ponytail and wear all black to reenact Kim K's infamous look.



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

Sexy ghost

Spice up your typical sheet ghost costume by wearing a fancy belt and/or bra over the sheet.



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

Vaccine card

You won't have to worry about forgetting your vaccine card this year when you get a poster board from the dollar store and make your own.



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

Squid Game tracksuit

Although you won't win 45.6 billion won, you can at least dress up as player 456 by grabbing a blue track suit.

A welcomed change

Growth through academic adversity

Brody Keiser
Sports Editor

For the first time in my education career, I find myself in unfamiliar territory.

My classes are challenging me.

Throughout elementary, middle and high school I did not come across a class that I truly struggled with. Despite taking seven advanced placement classes during my time in high school, I never really felt challenged. I graduated third in my class with a 4.3 GPA.

I worked hard to get the grades, don't get me wrong. I studied and did all my homework, but all of it just came easy to me. I guess I was blessed to have been a good student with a good work ethic.

Working hard in high school paid off when I came to college. I was rewarded in many ways. My assumption was that college would finally challenge me and I would have to work much harder than I did in high school. I was ready for that. In fact, I actually wanted that.

College came and, much to my disdain, everything was mostly the same. The workload was larger and the material was slightly more difficult, but I still did not feel truly challenged.

Until this semester.

I've never been an artistic person. I avoided art classes in school. I loved band and music, but in terms of actually drawing and creating art, I didn't enjoy it and I certainly wasn't good at it.

I knew coming into this semester I was going to struggle with my digital art class. For starters, I'm not the best with technology. I can learn quick and adapt, but technology and I are not the best of friends. On top of that, I have to use technology to create digital art. Combining these two weaknesses has been a struggle for me so far.

For the first time in my education career, I can truly say I am being challenged. To learn the use of Adobe's products and how to create my own projects from scratch is difficult for me. The feeling of not being absolutely confident in my ability to ace every assignment and test is a new feeling for me.

And I love it.

I absolutely love it.

Not only am I learning new skills, but I am improving on things that I need to improve on. By conquering these challenges, I feel rewarded for my hard work. I enjoy the struggle, the challenge and the perseverance.

Growth only happens when you face and conquer adversity. At first, I wanted to run from the challenge, push the class off another semester. But I stuck with it, and I'm so glad I did. I still have half the semester to go, but I look forward to it.

Don't run from adversity face it head on. There is no better feeling than persevering through a difficult time. I learned that lesson and it's one I will never forget.



Ferris State University Tire Fire



Y'all get this one edition, so you better enjoy it

Erbert and Gerberts hires basement zombies amid worker shortage Pg. 4

Monsters University classes to be offered for spring semester Pg. 6

Bird scooters move with a mind of their own Pg. 7

FRITE LIBRARY – ghosts in the attic Pg. 2

BREAKING: Statue of Ferris comes alive at moonlight Pg. 1

You're in your twenties, stop trick-or-treating Pg. 7

10 costume ideas that aren't from Squid Game Pg. 8

We are experiencing some temporary INCOHERENT RAGE Please stand by Pg. 666



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The Ferris State University Tire Fire is a satirical newspaper featuring fabricated or exaggerated stories written by members of the Ferris State Torch staff. Pseudonyms and false job titles have been adopted for each of the Torch staff members whose work is included in the Tire Fire. The Tire Fire utilizes invented names and quotes in its stories unless public figures or notable university personas are being satirized or described for the sake of our personal enjoyment, and the enjoyment of our readers. All other use of real names is coincidental. While the Tire Fire is an extension of the Torch, it is meant to be satirical and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Torch, nor Ferris State University.

Spirit strikes again

Spirit Halloween replaces the Mongolian grill



Photo by: The ghost who haunts the Alumni building

The void of the Mongolian grill station has been filled by a Spirit Halloween.

Joe Who's Joe?

Nearly two months after the Rock's "Minus 8" station became a ghost town, America's number one Halloween supplier appeared in its place.

Remarkably, none of the Rock's three employees can explain how or when this storefront showed up.

"I walked into work yesterday and came face to face with the grim reaper and a strong smell of latex. I thought death had finally come for me. Unfortunately, it was just a Spirit Halloween," said Hue G. Bone Jr, a veteran employee of the Rock.

"...I have IBS now."
Lee Prosy

"I noticed a distinct silicone flavor in my Big Dawg Burger. It wasn't that different from normal, so I didn't think anything of it. I have IBS now," said freshman phalology major Lee Prosy.

This sentiment has been echoed by one of Prosy's peers. "Cheese borger...cheese borger," said junior tooth major Bailey Bad.

It has since been reported to the Torch that Bad is currently staying in the Spectrum Health ICU. Doctor Harold Shipman diagnosed her with mad cow disease at 2:41 this morning. She has not fucking stopped saying "cheese borger."

The Rock staff has their own qualms about their new retail neighbors.

Employee R. I. Pee explained that in addition to the watered-down, ten-year-old top 40 pop music that typically plays at

all hours, Spirit Halloween has been playing "Calling all the Monsters" by China Anne McClain at full volume.

"It is the only song they play," said Pee "The damn song is so loud, I can't even hear myself think. Absolutely no thoughts."

From now until Sunday, all Spirit Halloween costumes are 50% off for bulldogs. Bulldog Bucks are proudly accepted at this establishment, so please stop asking Dining and Housing.

"This is the biggest sale we have ever had," said the ghost that works behind the counter.

According to an anonymous source, the storefront is set to disappear as inexplicably as it appeared at 12 am Nov. 1.

For more information on the sale, the storefront or if you are just lonely on Halloween, contact the ghost of Woodbridge N. Ferris via Ouija board. These can be rented from FLITE at any time.

...I thought death had finally come for me. Unfortunately, it was just a Spirit Halloween.



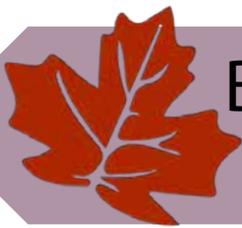
Tire Fire

Satirical insert laced with absurdity, hyperbole and going way too far

Pull out this section for the hardest-hitting fake news ever put to print

IN MEMORIAM

BRENDAN: IS WHAT HE EATS 1999-2021



On Saturday, our Editor In Chief Brendan was reported missing after not being seen for five days. Police arrived to take statements from his roommates.

"Five days ago, we found a jar of peanut butter just sitting in the middle of the kitchen. That was also the same day Brendan went missing." The resident Republican said. "I don't know if he bought us a jar of peanut butter as a parting gift or what."

Further interviews pointed towards the jar of peanut butter.

"I think he, or was, the jar of peanut butter. Like, when we found the jar, it had Brendan's glasses and it was wearing a wig that looked like Brendan's hair. Oh, and it was in one of his sweatshirts that were lying in the kitchen floor." Sports roommate said.

When asked where this jar of peanut butter is, all three roommates looked at each other.

"We sort of ate the peanut butter." The sports roommate said.

"I don't know what you want from us." The female resident shrugged.

Authorities are currently going through last week's trash to try and find this mysterious jar of peanut butter. So far, its whereabouts are unknown, but it is presumed to be in the nearest landfill.

"He was an odd bird," Dr. Tower

said. "Nice, but odd. Not sure why he would've become a jar of peanut butter though."

Brendan leaves behind his various other jars of peanut butter to his roommates. His laptop to his closest friends in Lowell. And everything else to his parent's basement.

Brendan is survived by his two younger sisters, who could not stop laughing when told the possible tragic news.

"Well, dad always said you are what you eat!" The blonde-haired one said.

"I'm going to miss that ostrich." The other said.



MARISSA 2000-2021

At 12 a.m. October, 31 the heart and soul of the Torch, Marissa, 21, was burned at the stake for being a witch.

While the investigation is still, on going there are many suspects who have been taken into custody for questioning due to Marissa recording her own burning.

These suspects include the countless tinder matches Marissa has been ignoring since getting into a relationship over the summer.

Marissa had always been described as "witchy" her entire life, and has now finally paid the price. Suspects said that she wore black too much to be considered natural and that the hold she had on men must mean she was a witch.

Marissa is remembered by the Catholic children she mothered, the simpy men (young and old) that visited her at her gas station and all the lives she has changed at the Torch.

Due to this death, the Torch is taking a break so everyone at the staff can grieve properly. If you would like to also pay your respects you can do so in a monetarily action by Vemoing her.

Marissa said on the video, "Y'all really think burning me is the solution? Hear me out, I

can't wait to haunt all y'all's assess for this."

Another chilling voice statement be heard on the recording.

"The bitch had it coming," said the voice.

There is currently no proof that Marissa was a witch but there are bets being placed at the police de-



REBECCA: CHAOS PERSONIFIED 2000-2021

On Saturday, our Opinions Editor Rebecca was found dead in her room, covered in peck marks. Her beloved bird is the alleged perpetrator of the vicious attack that lead to her death.

When officers arrived on the scene, the savage bird was flying around the room screaming and hissing at any personnel who tried to get close to her.

"I have never seen anything like it, the bird was truly unhinged. I was worried for my safety," an officer who wishes to remain anonymous said.

Multiple animal control units were called to the home in an attempt to subdue the alleged murderer, who is called Peanut by Rebecca's close friends and family. All attempts to capture the killer were unsuccessful, and Peanut's whereabouts are currently unknown.

"She always seemed so calm and peaceful, I can't believe she would ever do something like this," professor Stack, who saw Peanut every day of zoom class, said.

The suspect was last seen sporting yellow and grey feathers and a sassy attitude. If seen, please do not approach. She is presumed armed and dangerous. Instead, please contact local authorities.

Rebecca leaves behind her lifetime supply of Kraft mac 'n' cheese

to her three roommates.

"I'll cherish those boxes forever. I won't be able to eat mac 'n' cheese again without crying," Claire, one of the roommates, said.

Rebecca is survived by her roommate's cats, as well as her expansive plant collection.



CASSIE 2001-2021



It is with a heavy heart that we announce Cassidy Jessup departed from life on October 30, 2021, at 11:27 p.m. after dropping her phone in the bathtub while it was charging.

It was a truly horrific scene as first responders, dressed as unicorns directly from the staff Halloween party, reached the doomed bathroom. Cassidy was found in a mermaid outfit, dead by electrocution. Her lifeless, white fingers hovered over the colorful screen, where she had been in the middle of typing what was her final Facebook post.

"Look at this quiz...Imma die in 5 seconds lol" read the status update, which she never got the chance to post. The roommates at the apartment were strangely silent on the matter, and investigators suspect that they may be pleased she's not around to hog the bathtub anymore.

She leaves behind a crap ton of school work, and since she hadn't written will, everything goes back to her parents. They refuse to comment on Cassidy's tragic demise, merely roll-

ing their eyes and muttering, "...kids these days" before slamming the screen door.

It will be a closed casket funeral since it was unanimously decided that no one wanted to see Cassidy in a mermaid outfit. Instead, they chose





ROTTEN PUMPKINS

Gee Ees
Film Bro

Halloween is coming up, and one of the most fun things to do is watch Halloween movies, so here's some that you should consider. Spoilers, obviously.

Scary Movies

Halloween (1978)

You really can't go wrong with a classic slasher movie, and this might be the best. You've got the iconic Jamie Lee Curtis in her breakout role as scream queen Laurie Strode, who goes up against Michael Myers, a homicidal maniac with an emotional dependency on a creepy mask. As Michael goes on a killing spree on Halloween night, Laurie must fight to survive. This movie is perfect for those who would love to watch a movie that shows that humans can be the real monsters, while also making them not want to live in a small town.



96%

The Conjuring (2013)

A family moves into a creepy old house in the middle of the damn woods in Rhode Island. What could go wrong? Everything, literally everything can go wrong. Demonologists Ed and Lorraine Warren have to go save the Perron family after they made the stupid decision to move into a house on cursed land, and, shocker, paranormal stuff starts happening. When the mother gets possessed, it's a race against the clock to stop her from killing one of her daughters. Luckily, since this gets turned into a franchise, there's obviously a happy ending. This is a great movie if you like a few jump scares and Vera Farmiga's acting abilities, which you should.



86%

Double Feature: It (2017) & It Chapter Two (2019)

Is there anything more terrifying than a creepy ass clown who likes to eat children? Perhaps, but I don't think a horror movie about student loan debt would be very successful. These movies follow a group of kids from Derry, Maine, who call themselves the Losers Club, as they fight "It," otherwise known as Pennywise the clown. They eventually defeat him, but, like an old, offensive tweet you forgot about, he comes back 27 years later and starts munching on people again. This means that the members of the Losers Club have to walk away from their lives and finally put down Pennywise once and for all.



86%



62%

Fun Movies

Hocus Pocus (1993)

If there was one thing Disney was going to do in the 90s, it was going to make a damn good Halloween movie. This movie has become a favorite, and it's easy to see why. You've got witches, zombies and talking cats all running amok in Salem on Halloween night, all because a virgin had to light a candle. Hocus Pocus offers a fun story with humor and heart, and it is a great watch, whether you're eight years old like Dani, or an old hag like the Sanderson sisters.



38%



Rocky Horror Picture Show (1973)

This movie is best described in one word, and that word is "camp" with a capital C. In no other movie can you find a musical, a mad scientist, aliens, a cannibalistic dinner party and the iconic Tim Curry as the one and only Dr. Frank-N-Furter. After Brad and Janet have car troubles on a dark and stormy night, they stumble upon a castle and musical chaos ensues. This movie is a blast from start to finish, with a storyline that makes you feel like you may be tripping on something. It's also responsible for introducing the time warp dance to the world. Though it is still undecided if this discovery was positive or not.



76%

Double Feature: Scooby-Doo on Zombie Island (1998) & Scooby-Doo and the Witch's Ghost (1999)

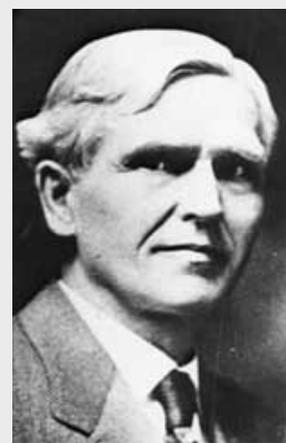
Who doesn't love a good Scooby-Doo movie? No one, that's who. These are possibly the very best that Scooby-Doo has to offer. "Zombie Island," set in the bayou of New Orleans, is the first Scooby movie that deals with the gang going up against real monsters, and not just a man in a mask. It also has all the humor and fun that makes Scooby great. "Witch's Ghost" also brings the real monsters to the table, while also adding magic into the mix. It is also responsible for introducing the Hex Girls to the world. These movies are great if you want a laugh instead of getting the crap scared out of you on Halloween.



88%



50%



ASK WOODBRIDGE

Submit questions to fsutirefire@gmail.com for a chance to see Woodbridge N. Ferris give you personalized advice

"Where is the best place to eat at Ferris?"
~Hungry Hilga

God, I wish I knew. This hellhole sucks when it comes to nourishment. It's definitely not The Rock, the place is half-closed all the time, and the food stations that are open are only serving nursing home meals. The Quad is no good either, all the food there is from a box. Don't even get me started on the fast-food around here, the people working there can spit into the food as much as they want. Stay home and microwave a frozen dinner, it'll be better cooked than anything Ferris has to offer.

~Woodbridge

"My friend is a party animal. She goes out and drinks every night and I'm worried about her. I'm starting to think all her partying will lead to her flunking out. What should I do?"

~Worried Willie

Aww, you are such a sweet person. You really care about others, huh? My advice for you is to kick your skanky friend to the curb while you still can. She's just going to drag you down! The best case scenario is you get heartbroken watching her flunk out. Worst case scenario, she peer pressures you into partying and you two flunk out together. It's a lose-lose situation! Kick your friend to the curb now. After all, it's the fall semester. You have all of next spring to replace her.

~Woodbridge

"Why is your name Woodbridge? Did you choose that first name yourself?"

~Curious Calvin

Listen here, smartass. I'll have you know I come from a long line of prestigious Woodbridges, and I founded a college. My father, Woodbridge Senior, founded a college. And my granddaddy, Woodbridge without thee, founded a college. Woodbridges are known for creation, we're like gods. Don't you ever question my legacy ever again. You'll never be as important as a Woodbridge, Calvin. I'll make sure of it.

~Woodbridge

"I told my boyfriend we didn't have the space or the money for a pinball machine, but he didn't listen! Now we have one in the middle of our living room. It's so tacky and loud. What should I do?"

~Annoyed Allan

What should you do? Enjoy the shit out of the pinball machine, that's what you should do! That's awesome! Pinball is universally loved, everyone and their mom have played pinball. You're insanely lucky, you can now play pinball whenever you want! That's a privilege from the gods! If anyone should be upset, it should be your boyfriend. How dare you hinder him from getting one sooner! You should go apologize and promise to never disrespect him again.

~Woodbridge

"My mom won't let me live on campus. What should I do?"

~Homebound Halley

That's a good mom right there. You want to live in a dorm? Who in their right mind wants to live in a dorm, let alone a Ferris one? The rooms rival prison cells, and the bathrooms are just plain weird. Have you ever flushed one of the toilets in the dorms? You can hear that thing from down the road. And the kitchenettes suck ass. Some of them don't have microwaves! Why the hell don't they have microwaves?! You better go hug your mom right now and thank her for letting you live at home. She saved your life.

~Woodbridge

"How do I survive this semester?"

~ Exhausted Eddy

EISLER SAYS:

"Gaslight, gatekeep,
girlboss."



HORROR-SCOPES

THE MOST ACCURATE HOROSCOPE YOU'LL EVER READ

The stars are sick of lying to you. See how they really feel in this Tire Fire exclusive column!



Aquarius: Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Happy to see you already found your Halloween, you fucking clown.



Leo: July 23-Aug. 22
If the cops ask you why your car smells like drugs just remember that whoever smelt it dealt it.



Pisces: Feb. 19-March 20
Just take that part of asking someone to take you to the pumpkin patch out of your Tinder.



Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 22
I tried to say something mean but you guys already have a shitty life so good luck with that.



Aries: March 21-April 19
Please lay off the alcohol this weekend. Your roommates are tired of cleaning puke off the bathroom walls.



Libra: Sept. 23-Oct.22
Even after Halloween is over you're still going to get ghosted.



Taurus: April 20-May 20
Don't bite the hand that gives you your nic buzz bitch.



Scorpio: Oct. 23-Nov. 21
I forsee someone asking you to take the mask off at the bar. Plot twist: it's just your face.



Gemini: May 21-June 20
Please stop trying to fuck your psych professor. It just makes you look desperate.



Sagittarius: Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Just drop out at this point dude. Your best just ain't cutting it anymore.



Cancer: June 21-July 22
Congrats! You won the dumb bitch costume of Apple Pie Sigma. Go claim your prize in the bottom of the ditch.



Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan.19
Careful who you bring home Halloween night, even Cinderella looked rough and she was a fucking princess.

**The stars are not liable for: headache, nausea, vomiting, death, vertigo, dysentery, mild heart explosions, darkened stool, darkened soul, lycanthropy, truchanthropy, more vomiting, hemorrhoids, virginity, mild discomfort, sugar high, even more vomiting, brown, your mom, and mild rash.*



OFF THE RECORD



Campus exploits that aren't necessarily illegal or reported to DPS, but probably should be

Lieutenant Bundle
Professional Dirty Cop

Gotta find funding
Oct. 31, 12:01 a.m. - The ghost of Woodbridge Ferris was spotted running out of the Huntington Bank on S State St. Officers chased the faded image down the sidewalk but once they hit the heart of Ferris' campus, Ferris evaporated. It's reported that Ferris stole upwards of \$30 million. The case was closed due to Ferris being famously dead for several years.

Honestly, that's just embarrassing
Oct. 31, 12:45 p.m. - Officers responded to reports of Woodbridge Ferris streaking across Top Taggart Field Sunday afternoon. When officers went in for the tackle, they hilariously missed to the tune of 13 million TikTok views. The case was closed because of how ridiculous the whole situation was.

I'll have what he's having
Oct. 31, 4:20 p.m. - A student who left their pot brownie



in a duffel bag at the rec center returned to find a fried Woodbridge Ferris in the locker room. No charges were filed as the student realized they were just so high from their own brownie that they thought they saw Ferris in

front of them.

I could be in bed right now
Oct. 31, 9 p.m. - A student returned to their room in Cramer Hall to see Woodbridge Ferris' ghost running out their door full speed ahead. When officers entered the room, they found it ransacked, but no items were missing. The case was closed because ghosts can't use doors.

Ferris out for a drive
Oct. 31, 10:35 p.m. - Officers attempted to pull over a speeding ghost Model T doing double the speed limit on S State St. When officers pit maneuvered the vehicle, Woodbridge Ferris rose from the passenger compartment, cackled and then vanished. The case was closed because ghosts can't drive.

It's spooky time all the time
Oct. 31, 11:59 p.m. - Dozens of reports rained in when the ghost of Ferris Woodbridge took to the sky, proclaimed that he was the ruler of Halloween and that we'd (Ferris State University) be stuck in Halloween forever.

**EXISTENCE IS PAIN. SLEEP IT AWAY.
ALTERNATIVELY: DRINK TO FORGET.**



LIFESTYLES

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

Culture in person

Several cultural events highlighting the significance of indigenous history to be held by Ferris in the month of November

Jess Oakes
Special Edition Editor

In person celebrations and observances of Native American Heritage Month will return to Ferris and KCAD for the first time since the pandemic began.

Combined efforts from the Center for Student Involvement, the Office of Multicultural Student Services and the Ziibiwing Center have filled the November calendar with various informative and cultural events. Beginning with a Nov. 2 lecture from Marcella Hadden, this month will provide students with many opportunities to learn the traditions of indigenous tribes in the Great Lakes region.

Hadden is a Mt. Pleasant based Anishinaabe photographer and businesswoman, specializing in Native American portraits and nature photography. Hadden is also the owner of Niibing Giizis, a photography studio named after the Anishnabemowin term for “summer moon.”

Other events include hands-on cultural activities and movie screenings, such as “Warrior Lawyers: Defenders of Sacred Justice,” an educational PBS documentary produced by University of Michigan alumnus Audrey Geyer. Following this viewing, Geyer will be present for a group discussion.

Darnell Lewis, Assistant Director of OMSS, believes that by attending these events, students can develop “an appreciation for diversity and cultural competency.”

Student Activities Coordinator Nick Smith explained that members of the

CSI and OMSS meet regularly to discuss campus events. Recognizing and celebrating cultural heritage is their self-proclaimed priority.

With Native American Heritage Month approaching, they wanted to collaborate with local indigenous tribes to provide students with something “amazing and impactful.”

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways is one of the groups that the CSI and OMSS reached out to. The Center, located in Mt. Pleasant, preserves art and artifacts of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek.

As explained in their mission statement, the Center believes that their purpose is to recognize, communicate and

“
Culture is not a
Halloween
costume.”

Hannah Tecumseh

support the culture, diversity and spirit of the Anishinaabe.

Several indigenous tribes are included in the Great Lakes Anishinabek, including the Chippewa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, Algonquin and Odawa. According to Native Land Digital, Mecosta County is lo-



NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES OF MICHIGAN

Graphic made by Charlie Zitta

cated on Odawa land.

With holidays approaching, sophomore Hannah Tecumseh believes it is important to learn about indigenous history. She explained that Halloween “calls for cultural appropriation.”

“Many people dress up as Native American Chiefs or ‘Indian Princesses,’ which I think is highly offensive. Culture is not a Halloween costume. I grew up wearing authentic and sacred dresses that cheap Halloween stores portray,” Tecumseh said.

Tecumseh has seen confusion surrounding the indigenous history and culture that her family feels a close connection to. She encourages students to educate themselves on upcoming events with an open mind.

Originating as “American Indian Day,” arranged by Seneca tribe member Arthur C. Parker in 1915, the celebration of indigenous culture in America has grown

immensely.

Native American Heritage month has been observed nationally since 1995. For the past 26 years, the sitting U.S. president has made their own proclamation in light of the month-long celebration.

Originating as “American Indian Day,” arranged by Seneca tribe member Arthur C. Parker in 1915, the celebration of indigenous culture in America has grown immensely.

Native American Heritage month has been observed nationally since 1995. For the past 26 years, the sitting U.S. president has made their own proclamation in light of the month-long celebration.

For more information on how to observe this month within the Ferris community, students may view the University Web Calendar or contact a member of the OMSS.

Dates to remember

- **November 2-** Marcella Hadden (Niibing Giizis Kwe) Lecture
- **November 9-** Native Arts Now! Film Screening and Discussion
- **November 16-** “Warrior Lawyers: Defenders of Sacred Justice” Film Screening and Discussion.

Visit <http://www.ferris.edu/omss> or OMSS on Facebook and Instagram for more information @fsuomss.

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FREE CONSULTATIONS FOR FERRIS STUDENTS

Netflix game brought to life

See how two groups on campus are bringing a popular game to life, with far less danger

Meghan Hartley

Lifestyles Reporter

Veronica Mascorro worked at the Torch in 2020 as a social media manager.

Children's games with high stakes but a big reward at the end, that's the name of the game for Squid Games.

Squid Games is a South Korean Netflix original show in which players play games they grew up with such as red light, green light, tug of war, and marbles. The winners of each game proceed to the next round, in hopes of winning the cash prize. The losers are eliminated and killed on spot.

This show became the inspiration for FSU's Sigma Lambda Gamma sorority and the Asian Student Organization RSO to host their first collaborated event. A real-life squid games for students to play, with no threat of death.

Senior Veronica Mascaro, who is a part of both organizations, is the curator of the event. She had an 'Oh my god' moment when thinking of how cool this event would be if it were to happen in real life.

"I started designing a whole flyer and everything," Mascaro said. "Then I was just like it would be even better if I could bring in the ASO. It would be an awesome opportunity for us to all collaborate with each other."

Mascaro got in contact with ASO President Nicole Ly. The RSO aims to provide a safe space for Asian students on campus and people who appreciate the culture and traditions of Asian countries while furthering others' education.

When Ly was approached on the idea of hosting a real-life squid game, because she was excited as this event would focus on the social aspect of Asian culture and help bring light onto the group and what they represent.

"When Veronica started bringing up squid games I was like oh my gosh, are we going to do an event?" Ly said. "When she reached out, with this structured event plan in mind and all the resources already made, I was like of course let's do this! I feel like, with the event, it's a really great way to come together and have fun, and there is a cash prize at the end, so stay tuned!"

The ASO is starting out brand new this year and its' members are very new to planning such big events, according to Ly, but believes the squid games will be a great way to engage students.

During the planning stages of the event, and beginning promotions, Mascaro received an email from the CLACS office asking if the event was going to need a safety waiver. She said they had Googled the games, not originally knowing what it was, and decided it would be best to double-check if it would be safe before they approved the event.

The real-life squid games will be safe, Mascaro said there would be no dangers and no risk of death. According to Mascaro, the games are the perfect event to put on as a fun way for students to earn some money in a creative way, as the Netflix show is growing in popularity.

"All the games are mainly based on luck," Mascaro said. "Everybody's gonna



Photo via Pixabay

have the chance to potentially win the grand prize."

At the moment the grand prize is \$50, but it could increase with the number of players. Each person is required to give \$5 in order to play, essentially their 'debt', referencing the show. The more players in the games, the higher the cash prize.

None of the games that students will be playing at the event have been released yet, in order to keep the secrecy

and hype of the event. Similarly to how the show worked and how the games were conducted. Secrecy, large cash prize, and not knowing what was coming next. Students can rest assured that one thing they can expect is fair and safe games to play.

The squid game will take place Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center. Any and all students are welcome to check out this mysterious event.



Dread, Diamonds and Decapitations

A playlist for any Halloween party



FOLLOWERS
3

Created by: **Hannah Wenger** • Guest Contributor • Photos courtesy of Flat Icon

Available from 10-2021

Are you looking for a playlist to blare at your Halloween party that isn't the same tired songs on everyone else's speakers? Try out this one!

This playlist was based off of *Necromancin Dancin*.

Necromancin Dancin- Bear ghost

The Dismemberment Song- Blue Kid

Cannibal- Tally Hall

I Can't Decide- Scissor Sisters

The Cult of Dionysus- The Orion Experience

Sex with a Ghost- Teddy Hyde

Wishful Drinking- Tessa Violet

Brittle Bones Nicky- Rare Americans

The Ballad of Sara Berry- Lindsey Mendez, 35MM

Here's the Thing- Sports Team

EAT SPIT!- Slush Puppy, Royal & the Serpent

bad to the bone- bbno\$, lentra

Hayloft- Mother Mother

Cats, Dogs & Rats- Rare Americans

Feed the Machine- Poor Mans Poison

Beggin'- Maneskin

all the good girls go to hell- Billie Eilish

Scooby- Doo- Ohio Express

Cannibal- Kesha

I'm Not A Vampire- Falling in Reverse

I Want Candy- Bow Wow Wow

Pet Semetary- Ramones

Dracula- Gorillaz

Ghost Duest- Louie Zong

Dragula- Rob Zombie

Werewolves of London- Warren Zevon

Halloween- PhoebeBridgers

Dead Inside- Younger Hunger

Haunt, The Cartoon Heart- Bear Ghost

Flight of the Crows- Jhariah

Dirty Night Clowns- Chris Garneau

Scan the spotify code to listen to more!



Residential activities



Photo provided by: AJ Arechiga

The Ward Hall RA staff gather together at the end of the 2020-2021 year. From left to right Olivia Adams, AJ Arechiga, Mackenzie Foy, Jacob Webster, and Jacob Erdman.

Find out what RA's go through to plan activities for residents

Charlie Buckle

Lifestyles Reporter

Any student who has lived in the residence halls has most likely seen different posters every week advertising an activity being put on by an RA. The activities can range from doing arts and crafts, playing games or watching a movie, but what is the purpose of these activities?

According to RAs AJ Arechiga and Greg Russel, who respectively work in Puterbaugh and Ward halls, the goal is all about getting students involved with others on campus through various activities, usually by taking a group of residents to events held on campus or holding their own activities for residents.

"It is the expectation of RAs to take residents to campus wide events to encourage residents to get involved with different communities and organizations that Ferris State has to offer," Russel said. "Likewise, RAs put on their own events, which have some sort of educational but fun aspect to them... Encouraging student involvement on campus has influenced many different resident's lives, where friendships are established along with other connections on campus."

Even though the activities are a part of doing their job, it doesn't mean that RAs don't like participating in

them. In fact, the reality is quite the opposite.

"My favorite part of my job is interacting with residents," Arechiga said.

Russel had a similar sentiment, "I love doing activities with residents. Each activity an RA puts on has hours of thought and preparation. Having residents in the community attend and even enjoy themselves is fulfilling as an RA."

Of course, the activities are not only enjoyed by the RAs, residents also like having something to do. Junior Bailey Good, who lives in Ward hall, said that in past years she didn't go to that many activities, but now she attends and prefers the events that interest her and offer her free things.

Of course, there are certain activities that are considered favorites. As RAs, Arechiga and Russel like the bigger events.

"I like planning all halls because we are given a larger budget, and typically we are able to get more residents to engage," Arechiga said.

"Through my experiences, we had a massive north-campus Mario event where residents went to each residence hall on north campus, played certain games, won tickets and competed in a raffle," Russel said. "I love planning these types of events because they really bring tons of different people together to make new

connections."

As a resident, Good prefers programs that can offer a distraction from school.

"I really like programs that calm me or take my mind off of school work for a little while," Good said. "Crafts are so much fun and an easy distraction when I need a break from homework."

Even though the RAs do put on these activities, sometimes residents don't attend, and that can be disappointing. It doesn't deter RAs from trying to plan the best activities, though.

"While turnout has declined over the past couple of years, I try to remain optimistic and maintain a high quality of events that I plan. While there may be less turnout at these events, it's even more important to be looking to make a quality event," Russel said. "I would say that an event was successful if three residents showed up and genuinely learned something they could adapt into their lives, rather than 100 people showing up and grabbing a snack and leaving."

If all RAs put in their best efforts when it comes to creating activities that they think students will enjoy, then perhaps more students should consider attending some activities, they may be pleasantly surprised by the experience.

TUNE IN TO OUR PODCAST:

THE FIREPIT

HOSTED BY:

MARISSA RUSSELL, BRODY KEISER &

NOAH KURKJIAN

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SPORTS

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

A journey well traveled



Photo Courtesy of Mylik Mitchell.

Mylik Mitchell faced a long and difficult road to find himself as Ferris' starting quarterback.

Former Division I quarterback has found a home at Ferris

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

Happy. Humble. Unselfish. Tough. Contagious.

These are words teammates and coaches have used to describe sophomore quarterback Mylik Mitchell. As a former Division I starting quarterback, many people wonder how he ended up at Ferris State University.

The journey began in Cleveland, Ohio. With a father in prison and a mother working in Texas, Mitchell lived with his sister and grandmother. At the age of 14, Mitchell made an enormous decision to move out to help his family.

"I was numb to a lot of things at that age," Mitchell said. "I was trying to survive and fix things for me and my sister."

A year later, he began his football career at John Hay High School. Mitchell began to shine for the Hornets, and he became a top-100 prospect in the state of Ohio. In his junior and senior seasons, he was named Senate League all-star, and he even won Senate League MVP in his final year.

Despite not winning championships, Mitchell, who was also the team captain, was sought after by multiple Division I programs across the region. When it came down to decision day, the Senate League standout ultimately chose Kent State as his next stepping stone.

"I received a handful of MAC offers early my junior year," Mitchell said. "I kept those offers on the table until many of them were taken away due to the school's quarterback position being filled. After hearing Kent State wanted me on a visit, I told them I wouldn't visit unless I got a full ride. Once they gave me the offer, I didn't look back."

During his first year on campus, Mitchell began to adjust to college life at Kent State. On the football field, he took a red-shirt season and began to learn and study behind starting quarterback Dustin Crum. By 2016, Mitchell earned the starting job and found himself under center for the unranked Golden Flashes in their Week 1 clash with Penn State, who was ranked seventh in the nation at the time. Despite the huge gap in the rankings, Kent State fought hard and only trailed 16-13 after the first

half. However, the Nittany Lions dominated the second half and went on to win 33-13.

"I was trying to survive and fix things for me and my sister."

Mylik Mitchell

Mitchell's first college victory came against Monmouth. Mitchell led the Flashes with his highest passer rating of the season (128.2), along with 77 rushing yards and two passing touchdowns.

Week 4 brought one of his most memorable moments yet, a showdown against Nick Saban and the #1 ranked Alabama Crimson Tide. It was clear the playing field was lopsided, as the Crimson Tide put up 27 points in the first 20 minutes of the game. Late in the second quarter, Mitchell tried to provide a spark to his team before halftime, but the quarterback was hit and sacked by multiple defenders, including current NFL Pro Bowler Minkah Fitzpatrick. Mitchell was forced to leave the game with a wrist injury and would not find the field again that year.

"I was immediately pressured on my drop back," Mitchell said recalling the play. "When I was wrapped up, I fell backward with the ball in my right arm facing upright. The last guy that jumped in the pile landed on my arm and the pressure broke my wrist."

After rehabbing from his wrist injury, Mitchell was ready to lead the Golden Flashes under center in 2017. Unfortunately, the former John Hay standout tore the ACL, MCL and lateral meniscus in his right knee. Just like that, his season was over one week before their opener against Clemson.

"I thought football was done with me," Mitchell said. "I fell into an abnormal state mentally and stepped away from football during my rehab."

Following the injury, the former D1 starter began to step back and re-evaluate his

journey moving forward. After three years, Mitchell decided to return to football and began his school search once again. Later in 2019 he got a call from one of his former coaches, Brian Rock. Rock, the Assistant Head Coach at Ferris, previously served as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for Kent State from 2011-2014.

"I had gotten contacted from someone that Mylik was looking for a place to go," Rock said. "Once I heard that news, I reached out and we started the conversation on how to get him here."

After jumping through the admissions and eligibility hoops, Mitchell joined Coach Rock and Ferris State Football in 2019. He joined seven other quarterbacks competing for the starting spot on Division II's second-best offense in the nation. From the very moment Mitchell stepped on the practice field, Rock knew Mitchell had grown since his time at Kent State.

"When you're talking about a 17, 18 year old freshman, that's a little different than someone with game experience. He had matured a great amount and improved immensely," Rock said.

The Bulldog's first game of 2021 came on a bright Thursday night against former GLIAC rival, Findlay. While Mitchell was not #1 in the depth chart, head coach Tony Anese sent him in on Ferris's third drive of the game. Mitchell wasted no time leading his team down the field. In less than a minute and a half, Mitchell had taken the Bulldogs 60 yards to set up a Jared Bernhardt touchdown.

Despite not being number one in the depth chart, Mitchell remained optimistic for his next opportunity. He was finally given the starting nod in the week four homecoming game against the Davenport Panthers. Despite a slower start, the Ohio native bounced back with a perfectly thrown touchdown late in the fourth quarter. Mitchell finished the game with 194 yards passing and a 75% completion rate, as well as a praised shoutout from Anese.

"I thought he did a lot of good things," Anese said regarding Mitchell's performance. "[It was a] great performance and I'm really proud of him."

For Mitchell, the Davenport game

wouldn't last long as his best performance, not by a long shot. In week five, the Bulldogs travelled to Northwood to face the Timberwolves. On his first three passes of the game, Mitchell collected 69 yards and led the Bulldogs into the end-zone. This trend of massive yardage continued all night, where Mitchell threw for a school record 508 passing yards and six touchdowns in their 67-25 win.

"I just did what I was brought here to do," Mitchell said. "I did my job and I am proud everybody did theirs. It was a team performance."

Despite the huge performance, Bernhardt's return from injury bumped Mitchell down to his backup role from earlier in the season. While many college quarterbacks would be furious with the change, Mitchell had a different approach that he learned at a young age.

"I came up in a household where nothing was really yours. We shared everything we possibly could. I know who I am and no lack of playing time will make me volatile," Mitchell said.

Although Mitchell has only started in two games this season, he has brought a level of leadership that has impacted the whole team.

"Mylik has set the standard for attitude and approach for our entire team," junior receiver Brandon Childress said. "The man broke a school record, didn't play the next game and never complained once. He shows up ready to work and takes on any role he's given. He's nothing but a true teammate."

Mitchell said he wants to impact more than just Ferris football.

"When people think of me, I want it to bring a smile to their face. I want to be known as a man who impacted his family and community in a positive way. I give the hope to kids in my community that you can make it out of a hostile neighborhood. If one person can reach their goals in life because they saw my story, then I've done my job in this world."

To follow Mitchell and Ferris football going forward, visit the "Football" tab at www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com.

A bittersweet ending

Ferris continues win streak on senior day

Austin Arquette
Sports Reporter

For the last time in their collegiate careers, Ferris's volleyball seniors left Ewingleben Arena with a regular season win.

The Bulldogs took the court on Sunday, Oct 24 against the Lake Superior State Lakers for Ferris' senior day. Before the set kicked off, Ferris honored their seniors: Katie O'Connell, Nina Gorgijevska, Brooke Norder, Audrey Bellina and Samantha Hermann. Julia Mitchell, a former player and current student assistant coach, was honored as well.

"It was great how engaged and energetic every single person on the team was each match," O'Connell said. "Our bench provides so much energy and communication for this team and it's been amazing."

Ferris dominated the Lakers to win in three sets by scores of 25 - 13, 25 - 13, 25 - 11. O'Connell led the Bulldogs with 14 kills. Junior middle hitter Kira Merkle collected nine kills of her own. Freshman setter Kaylee Maat lead in assists with a total of 30. The Bulldogs also got four service aces from freshman libero Leah Bylut.

The Bulldogs had an attack percentage above .219 the whole day. They were at the .480 mark in the first set, and they ended their day with a .333 shot in the third set.

Gorgijevska had 13 digs against the Lakers, while O'Connell added eight. Norder and freshman outside hitter Claire Nowicki each chipped in seven digs, and they had six total blocks to LSSU's four on the defensive side. Merkle had three total blocks to lead all Bulldogs.

Their win on Sunday gave them 12 in a row. They picked up their 11th straight win the day before on Saturday, Oct. 23 against Northwood with a 3-1 victory and set scores of 25 - 14, 20 - 25, 25 - 21 and 25 - 21. The Bulldogs have only lost a total of four sets on their 12-game win streak.

O'Connell led the Bulldogs with 13 kills and 12 digs, while freshman outside hitter Keona Salesman had 11 kills. Maat finished with 32 assists. Senior libero Nina Gorgijevska led Ferris defensively with 21 digs, while junior libero Brooke Norder added 12 digs and Maat finished with 11 digs for the Bulldogs.

The Bulldogs are grateful and happy for every win, and O'Connell said that so much of that comes from everyone bringing so much energy and competitiveness every day in practice and buying in to the process. O'Connell said the team just tries to get 1% better every day to be ready to play in games.

"I think we're getting stronger and better each week of the season," O'Connell said. "It's great to be a part of a



Photo by Bradley Moore | Torch Photographer

Katie O'Connell makes a play at the net in Ferris's victory over Northwood Saturday, Oct. 23.

team where everyone is so committed to the team and helping each other out. So it's just fun to be a part of it all.

"We got a lot left and we're excited to get after it. Our biggest focus this next week is to use our practices to get better and work on our game, watch some film to prepare for these matches and just compete."

Ferris advanced to 17 - 4 on the season and 8 - 2 in the GLIAC. The matches this weekend marked Ferris' final regular-season home contest inside Ewingleben Sports Arena. The Bulldogs have won 82% of their matches played in Ewingleben over the past 41 seasons of action.

"It was a little bittersweet knowing it was our last regular season game inside Ewingleben Arena," O'Connell said. "There have been so many great memories in this gym, and it was great to celebrate all of those times this weekend, especially with so many alumni being here."

Ferris will turn their attention to next Friday, Oct. 29, as they travel to take on Grand Valley State University at 3 p.m. With just four regular season games left, the Bulldogs (8 - 2 GLIAC) are trying to keep pace with first place Michigan Tech (9 - 1 GLIAC).

Overtime heroes

Ferris tacks on another overtime win

D'Andre Head
Freelance Reporter

For the second time in six games, Ferris hockey prevailed in overtime.

With their 2 - 1 overtime victory over the University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) on Friday, Oct. 22, the Bulldogs improved to 2 - 3 on the season (2-0 GLIAC). The two wins already surpasses their total of one from a season ago. Both victories this season have come in overtime contests.

The Bulldogs were unable to sweep the weekend series against the Tommies, however, as St. Thomas came back with a 5-2 victory on Saturday, Oct. 23.

St. Thomas took a 1 - 0 lead in to the third period during Friday's contest. Ferris answered with a power play in the third when junior defenseman Brenden Rons recorded his first goal of the season at 4:31 to tie the score at 1 - 1.

In overtime, senior forward Ethan Stewart dished the puck to

the middle of the ice where senior forward Liam MacDougall was on standby. MacDougall drew a toe-drag to the middle and ripped the game-winner at 1:11 as Ferris scored early to collect their second win of the season. Stewart picked up his first assist of the year.

Ferris' power play finished 1 - 6 on the night, but its penalty kill went 7-7. Sophomore goaltender Logan Stein was happy with the team's defense.

"There were a lot of special teams for both sides," Stein said. "We scored the only powerplay goal and killed off a ton of their power players against us. Our special teams were a big reason we won."

The two teams went head-to-head once again on Saturday, Oct. 23. The Tommies prevailed in this game, knocking Ferris' record to 2 - 4 (2 - 1 GLIAC).

St. Thomas dominated the first two periods, recording five goals to Ferris' zero. The Tommies opened the scoring early in the first period and did not let up, taking a 5 - 0

lead into the third period.

Ferris scored its first goal at 11:45 of the third period when senior forward Jake Transit scored his second goal of the season. Sophomore defenseman Ben Schultheis and freshman forward Bradley Marek picked up assists on the play.

MacDougall collected his second goal of the weekend when his skate tipped in junior forward Dallas Tulik's shot for Ferris' second and final goal of the night.

"We played good as a team, but ran into a hot goaltender who even played better than the previous game," head coach Bob Daniels said. "We are starting to turn in the right direction, but we need to focus on moving the puck early."

"We are an extremely resilient group," Stein said. "We have had a mix of results early in the season, and we are trying to find consistency in our performance."

Ferris will play Canisius this weekend.



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics.

Brendan Rons (right) and Liam MacDougall (left) celebrate the Bulldog win.

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