

## Candlelight vigil in the wind



Photo by: Angelica Rosenthal | Torch photographer

Jen Zamarron gathered students and faculty together to remember the lives we lost to domestic violence in the past year.

## Community members gather in memory of those lost to domestic violence

**Jessica Oakes**  
Special Edition Editor

The Anti-Violence Alliance concluded Domestic Violence Awareness month with a solemn, third annual candlelight vigil at Robinson Quad Thursday evening.

Members of the AVA, students and community members gathered in front of the University Center to honor over 50 lives lost to domestic violence in Michigan over the past year.

Only traffic and birds could be heard in the background as peer educator Sydney Mingori read the names of these victims aloud. Her voice joined the candlelight in trembling against the wind. Men, women and children were commemorated during this time, with ages ranging from three to 59. Thirty-eight of these names were read in full, three of which were accompanied by the phrase “and her unborn child.” The last names of 12 other victims remained undisclosed, as requested by the Wayne County prosecutor’s office.

Violence prevention coordinator Jen Zamarron reminded the audience that this list of names is most likely incomplete due to “imperfect” domestic violence homicide data collection.

“Everyone on this list was an important

and a valuable member of our community. Tonight, we mourn the loss of these lives. May we remember their names,” Zamarron said.

Mingori hoped to show attendees the “gravity” of the situation surrounding domestic violence. This was apparent as stark statistics pulled the eyes of audience members to the ground.

Violence prevention coordinator Raven Hills informed the group that 36% of women and 25% of men experience domestic violence in Michigan. These numbers grow across demographics, with Black and Indigenous women experiencing domestic violence 30-50% more frequently than Latina, Asian and white women.

“We can all play a role in ending this violence, so I’m really appreciative that all of you are here with us tonight,” Hills said.

Hills believes in the power of discussion. She, and the rest of the AVA, encourage people to be open about relationship dynamics.

“Like English, math and science, you should be having a class about relationships. That’s the hope, that we will have some of these conversations with people about boundaries, communication, relationships and healthy dynamics,” Hills said. This event showcased the AVA’s efforts

to prevent future incidents of domestic violence while remembering those who were lost.

With candles in hand, attendees silently listened to Mingori read the poem “Remember my Name” by Kimberly A. Collins.

“...As your eyes glance my name  
Understand once I breathed  
Walked  
Loved  
just like you....  
If my death reminds you to honor all you are daily  
Then remember my name  
Shout it from the center of your soul  
Wake me in my grave  
Let me know  
My living was not in vain.”

Attendees were reluctant to speak as the floor opened for names of additional domestic abuse victims. Hills sees this hesitation as a reflection of how victims and survivors are stigmatized.

“There’s a lot of shame and embarrassment that comes from experiencing this yourself,” Hills said. “You feel like you’re alone, you feel like people don’t understand. So, there’s a lot of hesitancy on the part of survivors to come and talk about

these issues because they feel like no one [will] understand them.”

Carol Nelson was among the few who felt comfortable raising their voices. Nelson traveled from Maine to support her daughter-in-law, a member of the Ferris community, and all victims of domestic abuse.

“That could have been my name,” Nelson said.

This October was the 32nd annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In addition to the candlelight vigil, the AVA hosted several other events including Engaging the Black Community in Domestic Violence, Co-Dependency in Pop Culture, Then it all Changed and multiple tabling events for resource distribution.

The AVA plans to continuously increase their impact on campus. As the year goes on, they are arranging events for Stalking Awareness Month in January and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February.

“As more people learn about the Anti-Violence Alliance and the work that we do, we want to really saturate the community with messages about prevention and messages about awareness,” Hills said.

Information about upcoming events can be found on the AVA’s website, Facebook page or Bulldog Connect.

Got news? Let us know.

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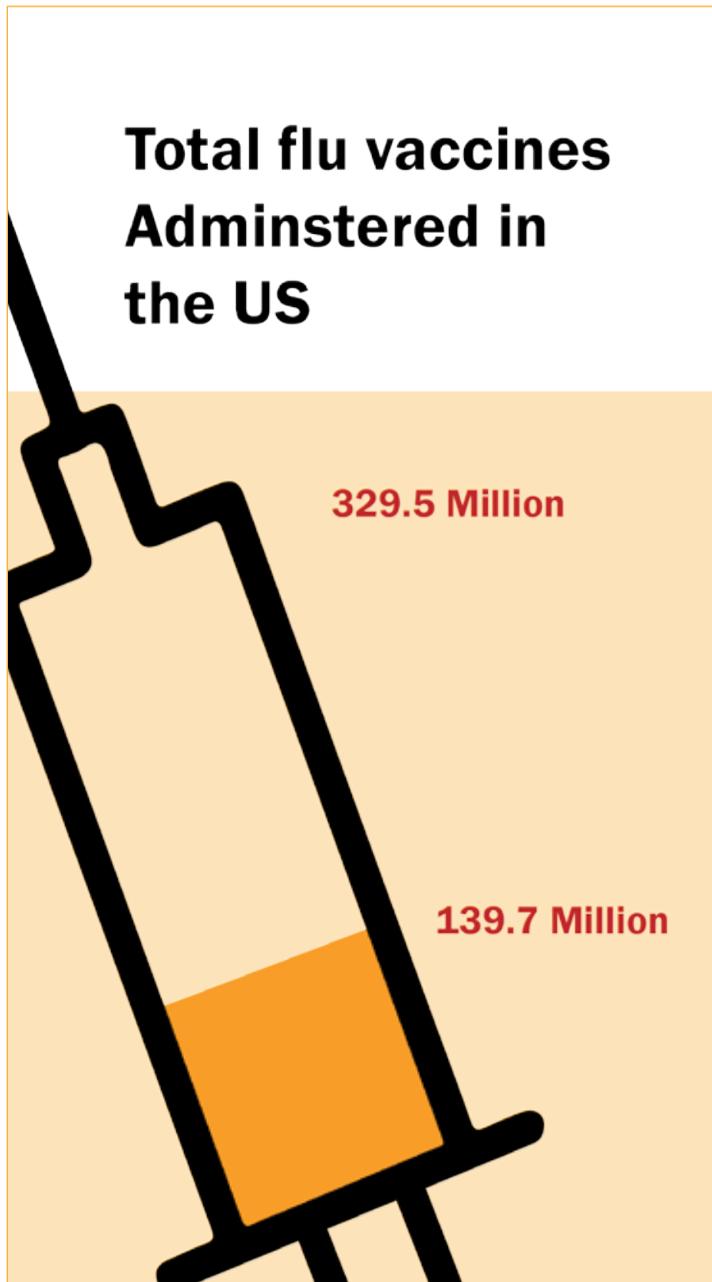


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# NEWS

Noah Kurkjian | News Editor | kurkjin@ferris.edu  
**The 2021 flu vaccine**



## Learn how the pandemic has affected the flu and where to get vaccinated

**Rebecca Vanderkooi**  
*Opinions Editor*

At Ferris, Birkam Health Center is offering vaccines to students, faculty and staff while supplies last. Insurance will be billed but any expense for the individual will be covered by the university, so it will be free for anybody who gets the vaccine.

Mary Beaudry is a nursing professor at Ferris, she explained that she has concerns about the flu this year, since people are out in public more than last year.

Her recommendation is for eligible individuals to get vaccinated. Beaudry noted that sometimes people can feel a little sick after getting a flu shot, but that shows that the antibodies are going to work, they are helping you. Even if you do feel a little sick after the vaccine, you are not going to be as sick as you would've been if you had gotten the flu.

"As a healthcare professional that sees people who are sick all the time, it makes sense to get a little jab for something that will save you a lot of misery," Beaudry said.

She added that the flu does kill people, and she recently learned

that it is possible to contract the flu and COVID-19 at the same time.

"For someone that is immunocompromised or has respiratory issues, [contracting both] could mean a death sentence," Beaudry said.

According to the CDC, the flu vaccine this year is Quadrivalent, which means it is formulated to protect against four flu viruses.

Additionally, the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same time. Typically, flu vaccines are available starting in September, and the CDC encourages people to be vaccinated by the end of October.

However, getting vaccinated for the flu later, like in November, is still encouraged because flu cases don't typically peak until February.

"Reduced population immunity due to lack of flu virus activity since March 2020 could result in an early and possibly severe flu season," the CDC's website said.

As of Oct 15, 139.7 million doses of the flu vaccine have been distributed nationally.

If you would like to get the flu vaccination, contact Birkam health at 231-591-2614.

## Flannel and Frights: Part one



Photo by: Angelica Rosenthal | Torch photographer

Ferris students made new friends at the petting zoo and enjoyed free donuts.

## Free apples, pumpkins, and doughnuts for all

**Jerry Gaytan**  
*News Reporter*

The Center of Student Involvement (CSI) transformed Robinson Court into an Apple Orchard with free donuts, apples, and pumpkin decorating.

On Thursday, Oct. 28, the newly renamed Robinson Court was altered to look like a mini orchard featuring a petting zoo with goats and a camel named MC. Students were able to decorate pumpkins, get free donuts and go home with a bag of either red or green apples. Associate Dean of Student Life Nicholas Campau was 'ecstatic' with the outcome of the event.

"The goal was to turn the quad into an apple orchard for those that can't go out and enjoy that," Campau said.

The event attracted around 100 students that filtered in and out of the quad space. According to Campau, he hopes this event becomes a yearly event named Flannel and Frights, a four-day series throughout the week of Halloween.

"It's nice to see some stuff happening on campus," music and entertainment freshman Alex Dellinger said. "...something I've liked about Ferris is just seeing a lot going on coming out of my dorm no

matter what day it is."

The event offered free doughnuts from Grand Rapids, pumpkins from local Four Green Fields Farm, apples from dining services, and the petting zoo from Ohio. According to the coordinator of activities and student organizations Nick Smith, the promotion of social distancing was done through staff monitoring on-site.

"It kind of made my day," digital animation and game design junior Cari Rasor said. "Because I didn't realize it was going on but now, I have four apples,"

The big sell seemed to be between the petting zoo and free food. Pre-pharmacy freshman Steven Cabo explained that he came for the free doughnuts but stayed for the goats.

In other news, the CSI will be hosting the Anishinabek Art and Tools program. This event will take place in the University Center room 209, on Nov. 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The program will consist of exploring the history and culture of the Anishinabek with hands-on activities, from works of art to utilitarian tools.

For more information on the Center of Student Involvement visit their Instagram page at CSI Ferris or Ferris.presence.io.

## ON THE RECORD

A roundup of this weeks crime at Ferris State University

### Halloween weekend horrorshow

**Noah Kurkjian**  
*News Editor*

#### You'll get your things in due time

Oct. 27, 1:38 p.m. - A man violated his trespass notice when he returned to retrieve his personal belongings from his hall. The case is open for review.

#### Skipping every step

Oct. 28, 2:13 a.m. - Officer pulled over a vehicle for having a defective brake light. The vehicles plate and insurance were also expired. Citation issued.

#### Broken windows

Oct. 28, 1:45 p.m. - Officer was sent to a pre-sumed breaking and entering. It turns out that just two windows were broken out. Case closed to due lack of leads.

#### Plates, plates, plates

Oct. 29, 9:06 a.m. - Officer stopped a vehicle on Dekraft Ave. for impeding traffic. The driver was warned for impeding traffic and having expired plates.

#### Halloween weekend horrorshow

Oct. 30, 2:29 a.m. - Non-student male suspect was visiting friends over the weekend in Cramer hall. The suspect broke off from the group and knocked on another resident's door. When the resident answered, the suspect forced himself into the room. Officers found the suspect in the stairwell after the victim fended him off and made contact with police. The suspect was arrested and charged with home invasion and aggravated assault.

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# LIFESTYLES

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## CLACS or CAPS?



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

Katie Thomas answers students' questions at the CAPS office, located in the first floor of the UC.

## Learn about what happened to the CLACS office and what is in its place

**Meghan Hartley**  
Lifestyles Reporter

The Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) is no more, instead, there are two offices ready to help students on campus with their future.

For nine years the CLACS office lived in the University Center. It specialized in RSO leadership programs, RSO funding, professional development, resume guidance and more. Over the summer the center was split into two offices: the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) and the Center for Career and Professional Success (CAPS).

Both centers are still located in the University Center. The CSI office is located in the same place as the CLACS office, and the CAPS office is their next-door neighbor.

Angela Roman, the director of the CAPS office, said the split of the CLACS office should allow the staff to increase the resources that prioritize and innovate career readiness opportunities for students. Especially in the CAPS office, as Ferris' mission is to provide students with a career-oriented education.

"The CAPS office empowers students and

alumni to engage in life-long career and professional development," Roman said. "We offer resources, workshops and coaching that encourage participants to explore careers, take part in experiential learning, complete personal reflection, serve their community and attain essential skills."

Previously, the CLACS office held six different departments, including professional development, career and volunteer opportunities, alongside RSO information and activities, greek life and much more dealing with the community life of the campus.

Nicholas Campau, the associate dean of student life, said that the two separate offices allow each area to focus on their own unique work and mission, and it has helped them increase the visibility of both areas on campus.

CAPS, in particular, can focus on "empowering students and alumni to engage in life-long career and professional development by encouraging exploration of careers, purposeful experiences, personal reflections and essential skills attainment."

"By realigning our staff into two departments," Campau said. "It's our hope that students see increased opportunities to be

involved on campus and opportunities for career and professional development."

While the CAPS office focuses on career-oriented assistance to Ferris students, the CSI office focuses on on-campus community life. This office was created to focus on three key aspects: hosting events, supporting RSOs and supporting Greek life.

Nick Smith, the coordinator of activities, said that having an area just for supporting RSOs and Greek life has become more focused since more attention can be placed on events that students are wanting to put together.

"We provide a lot of different opportunities for students to either attend or plan their own events and activities," Smith said. "We help support them with event registration, promotions and liabilities. We help them through the whole process."

Providing resources and supporting student organizations is what the CSI office does best. Smith says that even with the 200 RSOs that are on campus, if a student would like to start a new one, the CSI office is ready to help them. When students join these RSOs, the connections they make don't end when they graduate, their friend-

ships continue on in the working world.

Teresa Fogel, the student activity specialist, hosts a podcast on Thursday afternoons where she talks with Ferris alumni who have been in professional RSOs and other organizations that represent the entirety of the university, such as homecoming ambassador. Within these student organizations, Fogel says a lot of people have met their best friends and have learned a lot from the groups themselves by developing who they are and discovering what they are really interested in.

"Just stretch your wings and find out," Fogel said. "There might be something that you never knew you were interested in until you go and check it out."

The CSI office helps organizations begin, set up events and help students create connections for a lifetime.

While the CLACS office is no more, Ferris Bulldogs now have the CAPS office, specializing in professional development, and the CSI office, specializing in community development. Now split, the offices can offer more to their students in a more cohesive way than before.

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# Students are imagining more

## Online vs. in person internships

**Giuliana Denicolo**  
Freelance Reporter

With the career and internship fair being back in person this year, inquiries about online and in-person internships fill the air.

Hannah Weiss, a criminal justice major, had an in-person internship with the Lapeer police department this past summer.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, so I emailed the county I live in," Weiss said. "They pointed me in the direction of the recruiting officer."

She then went through the application and interviewing process, and started interning in many different areas to find which one she ended up liking best. Ride alongs were what Weiss focused on most during her internship. These consisted of basic road patrol duties and answering any calls.

"So, I would work six hours with [an officer] working on traffic control or any type of call, like taking someone to jail," Weiss said.

On other days she would work in the detective's office to go through cases. A few times she worked with the office assistant to learn how paperwork is filed, and with the dispatcher to listen in on 911 calls. This real-life experience helped her choose which direction in the criminal justice field she wanted to work in.

"I was undecided before going into it," Weiss said. "My internship, communicating with the officers and seeing firsthand what everything was helped me figure out the path that I wanted to be on."

Weiss believes that being in person for this internship made it even more educational and beneficial for her.

"Physically being there and witnessing it really helped. I definitely would not have gotten that experience online," Weiss said.

Online internships could be taken as a joke because students lose motivation to try and learn when they are not in a working environment.

"An [online] internship would be an easy out, and they're not getting actual experience," Weiss said. "I would just want to get it done, I [wouldn't] want to work for the experience or knowledge."

Weiss learned more about her field and herself during this experience, and she believes that in person internships are a great way to help figure out more about future careers.

Weiss thinks that it's especially important to do an in-person internship, 100% needed if someone is indecisive in what they want to do.

Emily Gudzinski, an illustration major at KCAD, interned online as the artist of a children's book last year. She found this internship through a referral from her mom, but she struggled looking for other internships because the options were limited. When this opportunity presented itself, Gudzinski went for it. She contacted the author that she was interested, and it began from there.

Gudzinski is familiar with online work because her major does not require much in-person work.

"With my major and my internship, it was a lot of online based work already," Gudzinski said. "The client requests what they want [through] message or email."

Other majors have a harder time with being online because most of their job is taught through experience, which is a lot harder to learn online. Even though she is used to this, she thinks it would have been easier to form a connection with her client if they worked together in person.

"I wish it would have been in person because there's that major disconnect when it comes to [being] online," Gudzinski said.

"You just don't get that personable experience."

Being online is hard for a multitude of reasons. For people like Gudzinski, it is almost impossible to stay motivated at home.

Although this internship was fully online, she ended it with a stronger knowledge of how things work in the real world.

"It's like a trial to see if I can adapt to [those deadlines], and it kind of solidifies the fact I like this work, so I want to go into this field," Gudzinski said.

Katie Thomas works in the Career and Professional Success office. She has been organizing these fairs at Ferris for three years as a part of her position as a CLACS assistant. The career and internship fair is a resource offered to students to help them move further in their academic and non-academic careers.

"We want to be able to provide an opportunity for students to network with employers in hopes that they can land a job or an internship that fits the degree that they're studying here at Ferris," Thomas said.

The fair has been virtual for the past few semesters, and a decrease in attendance is usual for both in-person and online attendance in the spring because, by this time, most employers have already hired students for their internships.

The career and internship fair last year took place via a website called Easy Virtual Fair, but this year it is going to be through Handshake, which is a well-known software for Ferris students.

By going through a software that's familiar to them, Thomas hopes to still get a really good attendance at the virtual fair.

Even though attendance was not a huge problem when the fair was online, Thomas is happy to have the in-person option again, while still being able to keep everyone involved in this event safe and comfortable.

To Thomas, both in-person and online is important for students because it helps widen their options and availability.

"I think there's better networking that goes on in person. They're able to make more personal connections in person," Thomas said. "But we do live in a digital age, and still having those virtual opportunities available is still crucial, so [students] can be accountable online."

Over 200 employers will be offering full time and part-time jobs, internships and co-op opportunities at this fair for every major.

"Our employers are ready to recruit our students," Thomas said. "We have worked years to create some of these employer partnerships, and they really like to hire Ferris students."

Companies are coming to the fair with ten to fifteen positions open, when they usually only have about one or two.

"Start networking,

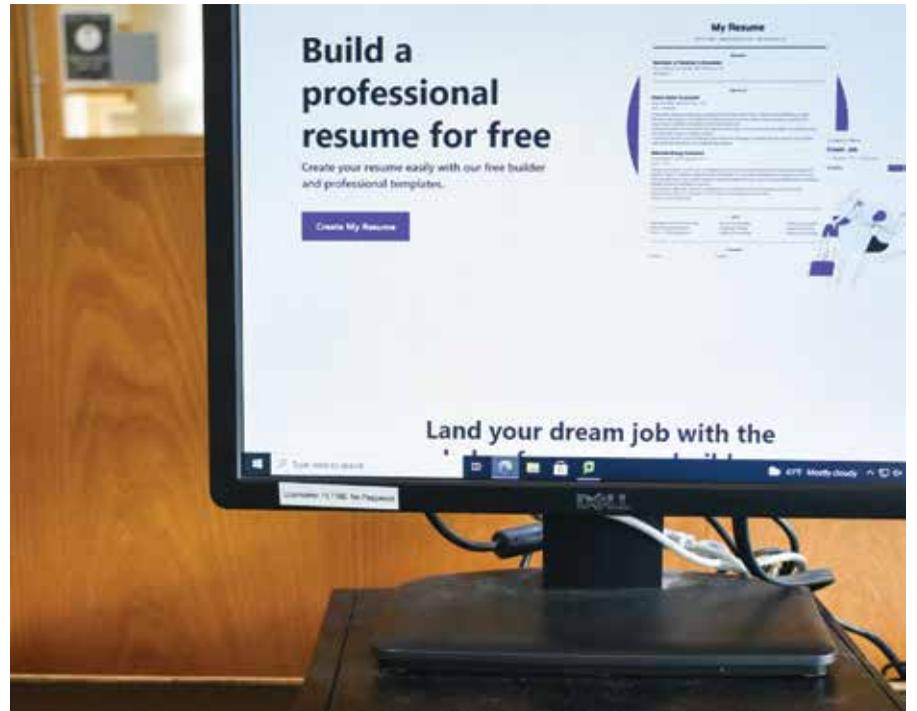


Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

Looking forward to the Internship Fair, building a resume is a good way to initiate a job search.

start making those connections," Thomas said. "[Because it] is so crucial in the career world nowadays, and it works both with the in-person and the virtual.

The in-person career and internship fair will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 9, and Friday,

Nov. 12, at 4 p.m. in the IRC, Granger Center, University Center, UREC and Optometry Building. The virtual career and internship fair will be on Handshake from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12.

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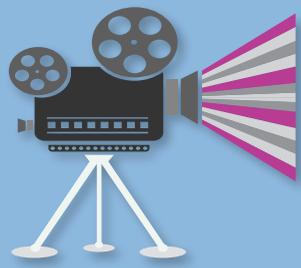
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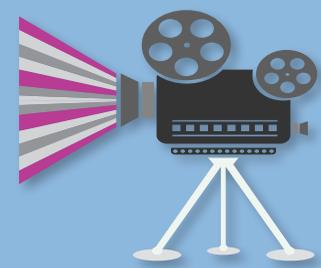
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# Media Minute



## “Only Murders in the Building” is the perfect embodiment of killer comedy

**Charlie Buckle**  
Lifestyles Reporter

Spoiler Alert: This article will contain spoilers for season one of the Hulu series “Only Murders in the Building.”

When I heard that Selena Gomez, Martin Short and Steve Martin were going to be starring in a show together, I was both excited and skeptical. In the end, my skepticism was unwarranted because “Only Murders in the Building” delivered one of the most compelling, humorous and all-around interesting first seasons of a show that I’ve seen in a long time.

The show centers on a popular trope in television. The one where an unusual group of people builds a friendship while trying to solve a problem. Those unusual people are Gomez’s Mabel Mora, Short’s Oliver Putnam and Martin’s Charles Haden Savage, and their problem is solving the murder of fellow building resident, Tim Kono.

The first episode centers around how

the group comes together. After the three protagonists and Mr. Kono ride the



elevator together, they all return to their respective apartments. While Mabel, Oliver and Charles try to listen to their favorite true-crime podcast, they’re interrupted by the

fire alarm, leading them to gather at a restaurant and listen to the podcast together. When they get back, they find out one of their neighbors is dead. Soon after, they decide to figure out how he died, while making it their own podcast.

What follows throughout the season is an investigation filled with twists that are not only hilarious but also shocking enough to make you want more. As the season progresses we find out that Mabel knew the victim while they were younger, that Tim Kono witnessed a murder himself and didn’t say anything and that he was in a relationship with someone in the building.

Each episode brings something and

someone new to the table. We are introduced to new characters, like the bassoonist, Jan, who begins a relationship with Charles, and Oscar, a convicted felon, who is another man from Mabel’s past. As the story progresses, the podcast’s ratings go up and more is uncovered about the death of Tim Kono, the stakes become higher for the protagonists.

In the third episode, Oliver manages to get the podcast sponsored by his former friend and investor, Teddy, who also lives in the building. This leads to complications later on with Teddy and his deaf son, Theo, when it is discovered that they had a part to play in the murder that Tim Kono witnesses.

“Only Murders in the Building” also does something that many critics and audience members noted online. An entire episode of the show is presented in almost complete silence, as it centers around Theo and his concerns that the podcasters are becoming suspicious of him and his father. The showcasing of a

situation from the perspective of a deaf character, while making the audience experience the silence as well, is a great touch to the season.

Finally, when you are told who killed Tim Kono, it comes as a reward for waiting and experiencing the twists and turns alongside the characters. And for those who have their suspicions of the murderer before the reveal, finally seeing the characters figure it out on their own is worth the wait.

“Only Murders in the Building” is a treat that brings humor to the solving of crimes and shows just how crazy the production of a true-crime podcast can be. The dynamic between Martin, Gomez and Short is the highlight of the show, creating a palpable relationship between their characters, while making the audience care for them.



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# OPINIONS

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The Ferris State Torch is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by The Pioneer Group.

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## EDITOR'S COLUMN: Playing Dress Up

By Brendan Sanders

Halloween is the perfect time to dress up and act like whatever you want to be. Some people dress up as fictional characters, or animals, or whatever their heart desires.

Well, this weekend I dressed up too, though not to go trick or treating but instead to act like I'm some sort of great successful person. For the first time since early 2020, I put on my suit and tie for an event outside of my own bedroom and was a guest at the Ferris Foundation dinner.

First and foremost, being invited to the Ferris Foundation dinner by Dr. Alspach is one of the biggest honors I've had as a student in the Sports Communication program. She gave me an opportunity to witness the event and intermingle with a few different people.

It's interesting to see the financial side of an institution such as this. I feel as if I saw more millionaires at this event than in my entire life combined. Which explains all the pomp and circumstance when it came to eating.

For the second time in my life, I was given two forks and two knives along with a spoon to eat my meal. I had to have my professor explain to me why there was so much silverware. Apparently we work our way in with the different courses. Odd.

The food itself was the best food I've ever had. As someone who eats peanut butter so much I dressed up as a jar of it for the Torch Halloween party, eating food that I've never heard of before was a change of pace.

There were a few instances where people quickly vacated my presence when Dr. Alspach introduced me as both her star student and the Editor In Chief of the Torch. It was funny to see the facial expressions shift when these people realized who I am.

I guess it is the only power I have compared to the people in attendance. Which included many dean's, provosts, vice president Fleischman, and President Eisler.

To be honest, I was out of my element when it came to actually talking to people. These are people who have left a mark on this university, some more than others. There were donors who helped raise millions of dollars for this university, deans and provosts that have worked here for years running their programs.

They were used to being at this sort of event. While I was just trying to figure out how to stand properly without looking too out of place.

At my dinner table, I was seated next to a CEO and Founder of a company, who had bought the table we were eating at, which means that he essentially sponsored the table. Jake Daugherty, the coordinator for Corporate Sales and Advancement for Athletics, Dr. Alspach, and Perk Weisenberger, our retired Athletic Director.

What do I even say to these people? Daugherty was the only person I have anything in common with, and most of the time he was talking with the CEO next to me. I struggled to even find the right time to get a word out.

I found that most of the time, it was better to just keep my mouth shut and let Dr. Alspach introduce me to everyone and make conversation when asked a question. I found myself keeping myself closed off so that I did not off-put anyone or act unprofessional, which

The dinner and presentation went off without a hitch, they announced that they officially past their goal of \$115 million dollars in donations and funding ahead of schedule with a \$5 million donation by pharmacy alumni Phil Hagerman.

Being present at such a high value event was one of the coolest experiences I've gotten to have while here at Ferris and I can't thank the people who got me to this point enough.

Now I put my suit and tie away for another extended period of time, and go back to being the guy in sweat pants and sweaters. A place where I am much more comfortable being.

## Ferris State Torch News Correction

Last week's edition wrongly spelled the name of City Commissioner Jonathan Eppley.

Corrections can be submitted through email at [fsutorcheditor@gmail.com](mailto:fsutorcheditor@gmail.com) or by calling 231-591-5978



## GOT AN OPINION?

### HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.  
Brendan Sanders | Editor-in-Chief | Email: [sandeb16@ferris.edu](mailto:sandeb16@ferris.edu)

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

# SPORTS

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

## Eight straight

### Ferris football returns home to collect another victory

Brandon Wirth  
Sports Reporter

After over a month away from Big Rapids, the Bulldogs welcomed fans back to Top Taggart on Saturday the same way they left them; with a dominant victory.

Ferris defeated the Wildcats 44-24 despite not playing their cleanest game of the season.

"I don't think our three units played at their best today," head coach Tony Annese said regarding the win. "All in all, it's good to have a 'W'."

The Bulldogs started the game on the defensive side of the football, where they stopped the Wildcat offense thanks to a tackle for loss from linebacker Liam Daly and a second-down sack by defensive end Caleb Murphy.

On their opening offensive drive, the Bulldogs wasted no time driving down the field. In just about three minutes, Tyler Minor and Jared Bernhardt moved Ferris State 73 yards using the ground attack. Two plays later, Evan Cummins completed the drive with a one-yard opening touchdown.

"Our line was getting really good push," Bernhardt said about the rushing game. "Minor and Burrell were getting some really good yardage."

Northern Michigan's second possession brought an unexpected turn to the game. On second down, Wildcat running back DJ Stewart appeared to be brought down near the Ferris sideline for a short gain. To the entire stadium's surprise, Stewart stayed on his feet and rumbled down to the Bulldog's four-yard line. Despite the change in momentum, Ferris's defense held their own and forced Northern Michigan to a field goal.

Following a pair of punts from both teams, Ferris began to move the ball down the field with the run game once again. At the Wildcat 32-yard-line, Bernhardt took off up the middle on a quarterback draw. The senior QB broke multiple tackles past the first down marker looking for a touchdown. As Bernhardt was hit near the 14-yard line, the football came loose and was recovered by Northern Michigan for the game's first fumble recovery.

The Wildcats took over looking to capitalize on the Bulldog turnover. After a pass interference call against Ferris and quarterback runs from Drake Davis, Northern Michigan faced a fourth-and-one at their own 38-yard line. Head coach Kyle Nystrom took a gamble and decided to go for it. Despite their proven success using the QB sneak, the Bulldog front led by Jordan Jones stuffed Davis for a loss and a turnover on downs.

"They are a great quarterback sneak team," Annese said. "Getting that penetration and making that stop was a huge play."

On the ensuing play, Bernhardt took a deep shot downfield and found Brandon Childress for a 34-yard completion. Bernhardt would punch it in on the next play with a four-yard run, making the score 14-3.

The Bulldogs' defense remained strong through the half, including an interception from Daly and a combined three sacks. Bernhardt would continue his huge game on the ground, finding the endzone for the second time on the ground with 3:44 to go in the half. Ferris would enter the locker room holding a 20-3 advantage.

Northern Michigan came out aggressive in the second half. Following a pair of key open-field tackles, Wildcat defensive back Brady Hanson intercepted Bernhardt's third-down pass for their third takeaway of the game. Unfortunately for Northern, a pair of intentional grounding penalties stalled the drive and forced a punt.

"We just had to move forward," Bernhardt said regarding the turnovers. "Guys are looking at you to lead them down the field."

Division II's number one scoring offense got back on track on the next drive. With the help of C.J. Jefferson, Marcus Taylor, and Jeremy Burrell, the Bulldog offense marched 77 yards on nine plays to reach the three-yard line. Again, it was Bernhardt receiving the honors of breaking the plane and scoring Ferris's fourth touchdown of the game.

Struggles continued upfront for Northern Michigan. Sophomore Major Dedmond and Daly pushed the Wildcats backward for two negative yardage plays, leading to an incompleteness and their fifth punt of the contest. Ferris followed with a 32-yard pass to Xavier Wade and a 28-yard run from Bernhardt but had to settle for a 29-yard field goal from Sy Barnett.

"I believe when our defense is 'locked in', no one can score on us," Murphy said.

Facing a 27-point deficit, the Wildcats finally broke through on a deep pass to Isaiah Popp, setting up Northern inside the ten. Three plays later, Davis ran into the endzone to make the score 30-10 late in the



Photo by Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

Wide receiver Brandon Childress makes a catch for Ferris against Northern Michigan.

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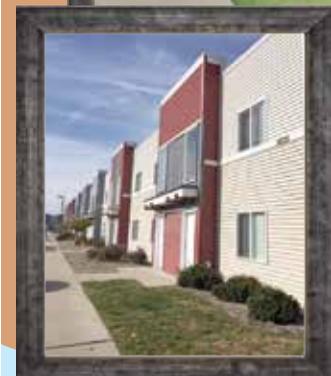
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# The right fit

## Transfer student-athlete finds a home at Ferris

**Austin Arquette**  
Sports Reporter

Many things are uncertain in life, but playing a collegiate sport was never uncertain for Ellie Dykstra.

Dykstra was first exposed to athletics by her older brother, Mitchell, who went on to play baseball at Muskegon Community College.

Throughout her life, Dykstra has played just about every sport, but basketball just happened to be the one she enjoyed the most. She found her love for basketball in fifth grade as she attended camps and her love for the sport grew throughout high school.

She began to attend basketball camps and saw the way the high school girls were coached and it made her fall more in love with the game. Dykstra said she remembered how she wanted to be just like them. From that moment on, she knew she would play collegiate basketball.

At Byron Center High School, Dykstra was a three-time Class A, all Ottawa-Kent Conference selection, a three-time all-area honoree, and named a Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Class A Honorable Mention her final two seasons. She took her talents to Purdue-Fort Wayne in 2018 where she played in 25 games with one start in her first season there. She stayed at Purdue-Fort Wayne in 2019 and played in 29 games with 15 starts. Dykstra would go on to be named to the 2019-20 Summit League Commissioner's List of Academic Excellence, and she was a two-time Summit League Academic Honor Roll pick.

Then she got the opportunity to move to Big Rapids, Michigan and become a Ferris State Bulldog.

"I decided to transfer from Purdue Fort Wayne to Ferris because I wanted to find my perfect fit," Dykstra said. "There were aspects to college and basketball at PFW that were missing for me and I realized I only get my college experience once, and I wanted to ensure that I wasn't going to be complacent and have regrets. I am certain that Ferris is the perfect fit for me because I found my second family, my teammates have a mentality of craving success that is similar to me, and we have the same goals and same plans of achieving those goals."

She wants to bring her D1 skills and experience and dominate the GLIAC. However, Dykstra knows that her goals away from basketball are just as important. Building relationships with her teammates who became her best friends while making memories that will last forever is her biggest goal outside graduating.

When Dykstra transferred to Ferris, head coach Kurt Westendorp was also entering his first year at Ferris. He said that the team was fortunate to have Dykstra choose Ferris over everyone else, especially in the GLIAC. Westendorp knows how valuable a

versatile player like Dykstra is.

"Ellie was the first recruit I pursued after being named the head coach at Ferris," Westendorp said. "I was going through the transfer portal at the same time she was entering the portal looking for a new school. There was mutual interest right away. She fit a need that we needed to add some skilled depth to our frontcourt. It was a quick recruiting process and Ellie was an instant fit for our program. Ellie embodies everything we want out of our student-athletes. She's great in the classroom, is a great teammate, and is one of the most coachable players on our team. She is extremely dependable and is going to have a big role on our team this year."

Westendorp said that the team's practices to start the year have been extremely competitive. One way that Dykstra rubs off on her teammates is with her competitiveness, according to Westendorp. Since Dykstra has the experience of being a fourth-year college athlete with two of those years at the DI level, it helps impact every drill the team does.

Junior guard Mallory McCartney said that having Dykstra join the team was the best thing that could've happened for the Bulldogs. McCartney believes that Dykstra was the missing piece the team needed for the Bulldogs to make a leap for a championship.

"She brings energy and grit daily and when you look at her you can't help it but smile," McCartney said. "She is the most consistent player I've played with. Having her as a roommate is even better as we've all become best friends, and I couldn't imagine it any other way. Building chemistry was something that happened very fast with my roommates and Ellie and ever since she moved in with us, we would have small talk, but within the first two weeks we all got very close very fast which also transferred to the court."

"She is always the one throwing in those little comments that just make you laugh," McCartney said. "She is the kindest person I know and she is always the first person to help with any situation. Ellie is a very special player and an even better person, and I am beyond thankful Ellie chose to come to Ferris. This is a friendship that will last a lifetime."

Not only has Dykstra made an impact on McCartney but also on senior guard Samantha Krauss. Dykstra, McCartney and Krauss all live together and Krauss said that before Dykstra committed to Ferris the three teammates were in search of a roommate. They said it worked out perfectly that there was an open room and Dykstra needed one. However, they never expected the chemistry to click as fast as it did.

"I couldn't imagine living with anyone else. We make dinners and have movie nights together basically every night. She truly became one of my best friends in such



Photo courtesy of Ellie Dykstra.

Ellie Dykstra was an award winning player for Byron Center High school before playing at Purdue-Fort Wayne. She then transferred to Ferris.

a short time," Krauss said. "She is one of the sweetest, kindest people I know. She is someone that I can always count on to put me in a good mood with her easy-going, lighthearted personality. She is a super special person that anyone would be lucky to know."

As the chemistry grows between the women's basketball team both on and off the court, the Bulldogs are excited for the upcoming season and they are ready to show what they can do together. Krauss said that for the team to land a DI prospect is amazing and super exciting, especially when that player is a great person. Like Mc-

Cartney, Krauss said Dykstra was the missing piece the team needed.

"Sometimes I forget I've only actually known Ellie for a little over a year, it feels like I've known her and been playing with her for years," Krauss said.

When the season ends and Dykstra graduates, she said basketball will come to an end, but she will search for opportunities such as open gyms and pick-up games to keep the game in her life. Dykstra hopes to also coach in the future. Dykstra would like to obtain her master's degree as well.

Dykstra and the Bulldogs will start their season Saturday, Nov. 13 at home against

### FOOTBALL

Continued from page 9

third quarter. It wouldn't take long for the Bulldogs to respond. One minute and thirty-four seconds later, running back Jeremy Burrell scampered around the left end for a 14-yard score.

As the fourth quarter began to progress, Northern Michigan began to find opportunities to move the ball without using their offense. Following a personal foul and unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, the Wildcats flipped the field to the Bulldog 32-yard line. With second-string QB Zach Keen in the game, the Wildcats found themselves facing a fourth and eight. Using a crossing route across the middle, Keen found Tyquan Cox for a 19-yard touchdown.

While that play stunned the hometown

crowd, the following possession would bring an even more surprising play. Led by quarterback Mylik Mitchell, Ferris passed their way all the way down to the three-yard line. On first and goal, Cummins returned to the game looking for his second touchdown. On play-action, Cummins' rollout pass went through the hands of the Wildcats' defensive back Casey Wolf and into the hands of Taylor.

Holding a 27-point advantage, the Bulldog crowd certainly began to feel confident in their teams' chances of holding on to the win. On the following drive, a pair of unsportsmanlike conduct penalties brought the energy back to the home crowd. Ferris obtained four 15-yard penalties and gave the Wildcats great field position to score their third TD of

the game. This included an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty on Annese.

"I did a study on penalties we received outside of regular season play and there wasn't very much," Annese said. "I don't know if we have a reputation or something but we've got to figure the penalty issue out."

From there, Ferris went on to run out the clock and earn the 44-24 victory. Bernhardt finished going 10-14 with 154 yards passing. He also added 163 rushing yards and three touchdowns on 17 carries. Minor followed with 120 yards on 14 carries and Burrell finished with 30 yards on five carries. Xavier Wade led the Bulldogs receiving with 77 yards on three catches with Marcus Taylor adding 50 yards on five catches. On the defensive side, Dedmond led the way with

eight tackles, followed by Cyntell Williams with seven and Austin Simpson with six. Murphy added three sacks and three tackles for a loss while Daly added six tackles, two and a half being for negative yardage.

As the Bulldogs approach the end of the regular season, Annese believes this team has to stay on point and focused to keep on winning.

"We've spent since December of 2019 getting ready and we have only one Saturday each week to prove it," Annese said. "We need to stay locked in."

Ferris moves to 8-0 on the season and 4-0 in GLIAC play. They will face Davenport Saturday at noon in Caledonia. For more information, visit the "Football" tab at [www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com](http://www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com).

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