

The Ferris State Torch



NINETY-ONE YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of Jan. 19 – 25, 2022

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Dr. Barry Mehler speaks on viral semester introduction video

According to Mehler, this wasn't an unhinged rant, it was a scripted performance

Rebecca VanderKooi
Opinions Editor

"Welcome to the new season of my show 'More Bad News,' brought to you by Camel Cigarettes."

Dr. Barry Mehler began his classes last week with this statement, similar to the way he has started his classes for decades. However, this time the unexpected happened and the video went viral.

On Sunday, Jan. 9, Mehler shared a 14-minute, unlisted YouTube introduction video with his new students for the spring semester.

"I sent this private URL to 120 students on Sunday afternoon. By Monday afternoon I saw that there were 500 views, which I thought was strange," Mehler said.

Now, a week later, the YouTube video has almost half a million views. It has surpassed two million views on TikTok and gone viral on both Twitter and Reddit.

History of the Show

For over 30 years Mehler has been a professor at Ferris, and he is known for his eccentric teaching style. He has spent over 20 years perfecting his classroom show, which used to be called "Sympathy for the Devil," but he has since changed the name to "More Bad News."

During his tenure at Ferris, Mehler has been nominated for the Distinguished Teaching Award, and he also brought his show to the Passion for the Past event that promotes Ferris' history program.

Before COVID-19, the first day of Me-

hler's classes looked different. They began with a darkened room, students would filter in, unsure whether they were in the right place. Then he would play "Sympathy for the Devil" on YouTube, immediately turn on the lights and launch into a Camel Cigarette commercial. The song and the commercial were repeated during every subsequent class throughout the semester.

"What's missing here is I'm sitting here talking to myself on a video that I release. Whereas in the old days, I would walk into the class, I'd be right in front of you and I'd be so outrageously crazy that when students leave the classroom, they have to think, 'What was that about? What happened?'" Mehler said.

Mehler explained that two main things happen in college. One is learning, memorizing dates and information and preparing for exams. The other is thinking.

"Students all walk into my classes and sit down knowing all kinds of things. My objective is to get them to think, how do I know all these things I know?" Mehler said.

That is the reason he starts each class with a Camel Cigarette commercial. Back in the day, everybody "knew" that smoking Camel's was good for you, but today everyone knows that cigarettes are incredibly harmful. Mehler's goal is to challenge his students to think about why they have the perceptions and conceptions that they do. He also added that when a student figures something out on their own, they remember it better than when they are simply handed the information.

Another key component to Mehler's



Photo courtesy of Dr. Mehler.

Dr. Barry Mehler has been teaching at Ferris since 1988.

show is his discussion on his Calvinist grading system; something that he is quick to add is just a joke.

"[It] is meant to get students to think about something that very few professors of American history talk about. I talk about

theology, and Calvinism and Calvinist doctrine. As I say in the video, it's woven American concepts of justice, and it's something worth thinking about," Mehler said.

Mehler | see page 3

COVID-19 cases peak, still no tipping point

Ferris maintains face to face instruction as Omnicron cases soar

Jess Oakes
Special Editions Editor

Ferris' on-campus COVID-19 preparedness plan for the spring semester remains nearly identical to that of the fall, despite the university reaching a record high number of active cases.

On Jan. 11, the second day of in-person classes, Ferris' COVID-19 dashboard reported 108 active cases. The Re-entry Committee appears to lack any plan for implementing additional health and safety measures, such as mandated virtual learning or vaccinations, as the University sees active cases reach triple digits for the first time.

The Committee declined the offer for a formal interview with the Torch. Associate Vice President for External Relations Jeremy Mishler provided a statement on behalf of all committee members.

According to the statement, the university will continue to "implement the health and safety protocols established to keep our Ferris community safe." This includes the expectation for students to mask, monitor their symptoms, report positive test results and "practice good hygiene."

Like the fall semester, students in on-campus housing were subjected to mandatory testing. However, students were responsible for scheduling or obtaining their own tests and did not need proof of negative results to move back onto campus.

This testing and an increased "public awareness and overall enforcement of its indoor mask policy at home athletic events" is the extent of the Committee's additional health and safety protocol, which they continue to discuss weekly.

Holly Price, Ferris Faculty Association Insurance Coordinator and former Committee member, believes that the focus of these weekly meetings often strays from health and safety to image.

"A lot of the time on the Committee was [spent] trying to draft the announcements and the emails," Price said. "Right. Like, how can we say this? Let's put this together. Read what I started. What do you think... A lot of it was PR."

Price explained that she never felt like an influential voice during her three-month stint with the Committee.

"[Ferris] needs this committee for their image, but I think there's a smaller committee that is directing the Re-entry Commit-

tee... I think the Board of Trustees is basically leaving it in the hands of Bobby and the President," Price said.

Price stepped down from her position with the Committee in the summer of 2020 because her effort was reportedly not "being used in a valuable way." The FFA collectively decided against sending in a replacement.

As the two-year anniversary of the pandemic approaches, Price sees no sign of increased support from the Committee.

"I don't think there's a lot of people looking into what we could be doing. They know that to do more will cost money and upset students," Price said. "[It is] true for students and faculty alike. There's very little support when you get sick. There's very little support when I try to teach the class safely."

Assistant Professor and Doctor of Public Health Emmanuel Jadhav believes that, given certain restraints, Ferris is doing everything in its power to protect the community from COVID-19.

"Is Ferris doing what they should? Yes," Jadhav said. "The response to that would be, you know, at least they're doing what the administration is thinking should be

done."

Jadhav believes that one, with Spectrum Health, the Ferris community and Mecosta County at large, would need external assistance to implement greater health and safety measures.

"I think we are currently doing what we can do with what we have," Jadhav said. "We are going to need more to do more... We don't have an extra hospital. We don't have the ability to bring [more] testing kits. These are not things that Ferris does, these are not things that Spectrum does."

With case numbers continuing to spike, Jadhav encourages students to protect themselves and others on an individual basis. To him, distancing, masking, testing and vaccinating is the "minimum."

"It is scary to think about our infrastructure, just our natural infrastructure, being in a rural, underserved health-professional shortage area," Jadhav said. "We find ourselves in this unique situation where, should things get out of control, I don't know what it would look like."

For testing and vaccine information, visit the Ferris State COVID-19 Dashboard.

Got news? Let us know.

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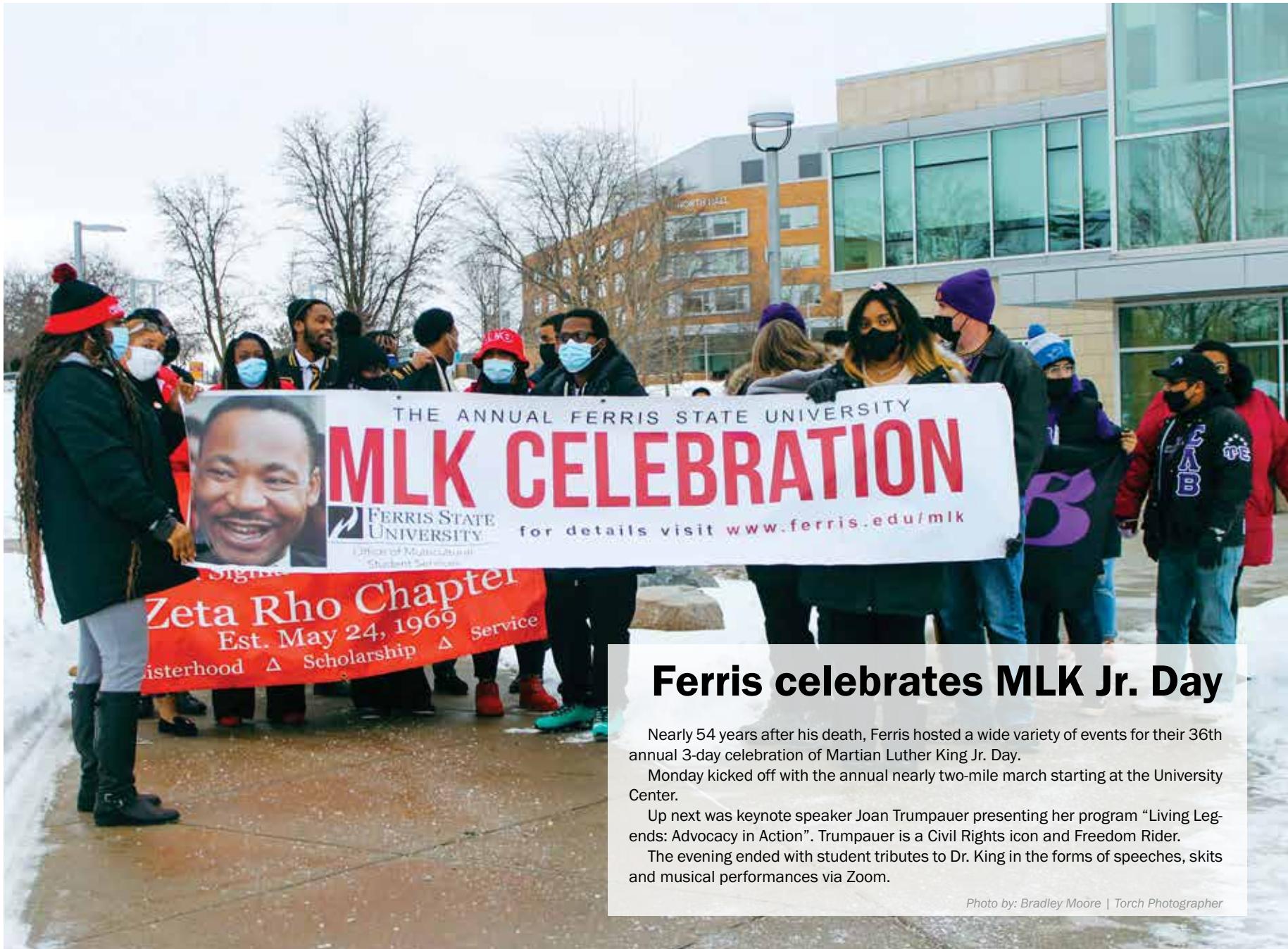


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NEWS

Noah Kurkjian | News Editor | kurkjn@ferris.edu



Ferris celebrates MLK Jr. Day

Nearly 54 years after his death, Ferris hosted a wide variety of events for their 36th annual 3-day celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Monday kicked off with the annual nearly two-mile march starting at the University Center.

Up next was keynote speaker Joan Trumpauer presenting her program "Living Legends: Advocacy in Action". Trumpauer is a Civil Rights icon and Freedom Rider.

The evening ended with student tributes to Dr. King in the forms of speeches, skits and musical performances via Zoom.

Photo by: Bradley Moore | Torch Photographer

Students speak up regarding Mehler's semester introduction video

Former students and alumni give their views on the viral video

Rebecca VanderKooi

Opinions Editor

This past week Dr. Barry Mehler was suspended following a class introduction video that went viral. Mehler, causing extreme reactions of both support and hate.

Mehler explained that numerous former students have reached out to Mehler via email since the video has gone viral, expressing their support for him.

"I've been brought to tears by how many of my former students have been so supportive," Mehler said.

Brittany Gwisdala is a former student who graduated from Ferris State University's History BA program in December of 2015.

Gwisdala explained that Mehler's lectures were like nothing she had ever experienced before, and it kept her interested regardless of the topic.

"The utter surprise - even shock - of this classroom etiquette kept me enthralled, and I found myself pondering his remarks. Approaching history has many different variations and Dr. Mehler's methods were certainly the most engaging," Gwisdala said.

Gwisdala noted that while the video may have been shocking to some who were unfamiliar with Mehler's teaching style, she was not shocked by the contents of the video.

Another Ferris alumni, Taylor Davis, had a vastly different experience in Mehler's class. Davis graduated with a degree in elementary education, and she took Michigan history in spring of 2017 with him.

Davis explained that after just one class she believed she was predestined to fail, and he talked about how everyone in the class had a predestined grade. She also added that he talked about smoking cigarettes and made it seem like everyone should smoke them.

"In college classes, satirical content can be appropriate because of the age level at which you're teaching. However, to use it to tell your students that they have a high chance of failing the class is inappropriate," Davis said.

Davis noted that she remembers that Mehler was a loud and hectic man, but she does not remember one thing that she learned from him.

"In education you have to know your students and what works for them. Each student has a different learning style and didn't feel like he cared at all about the students, except the ones who sat right in front and got him on conversations about other topics not related to Michigan history," Davis said.

In 2015, Paolo Di Raddo graduated from Ferris with a degree in history. He explained that Mehler invited him to observe his Terrorism in the Middle East course and Amer-

ican Capitalism course.

Di Raddo noted that his first reaction to the viral video was to laugh, it was part of the 'show' that he knew well. While Mehler has unique teaching methods are out of the box, Di Raddo enjoyed sitting in on his lectures.

"Dr. Mehler's teaching method may be unorthodox, even extreme, but without those methods how could we obtain the tools to push the boundary of history just a little more out of its comfort zone?" Di Raddo said.

Another student who took two classes with Mehler during her time at Ferris was Melyna Fellows who graduated with a degree in criminal justice in 2019.

Fellows explained that Mehler always immersed himself into the acting, regardless of the topic being discussed. Because of this, it was impossible to get bored or lose focus.

She also added that a lot of what she witnessed in the introduction video was like her experience in his class a couple of years ago.

"He always taught predestination and Calvinism just as he did in his viral video. Each time I took his class, he gave that same speech about your grades being predetermined. He never actually meant it, but how could you possibly forget something taught to you in a way that instantly instills fear?" Fellows said.

Another student who has taken Mehler's classes through the years is Angela Cool, who graduated with a degree in art history. Her take on Mehler's class is that he is incredibly passionate about the subject matter, and he challenges students to question everything and develop critical thinking skills.

"I feel the video is being taken out of context and is blown out of proportion. Dr. Mehler's teaching methods have been similar throughout his tenure, so why is this an issue now? Is it because he plans to retire this year? Does the university not want to pay out the end of his contract? There is no way President Eisler did not know how these classes are taught. Furthermore, these are adults he is teaching. The media is creating a faux outrage," Cool said.

Numerous students have come forward, sending letters of support to both President Eisler and to Mehler himself.

Mehler was quick to note that with his eccentric teaching methods, he knows it does not suit everyone. However, through student interviews as well as Twitter and Reddit comments, it appears that most students who've been in his classes support Mehler.

Brendan Sanders contributed to the reporting of this article.

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Don'tDash

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

It's 'trespass' not 'just pass'

Dec. 8, 5:36 p.m. - Former student who has since been trespassed from campus was found again to be on campus, there is currently a warrant out their arrest for the new trespassing offense.

They were definitely stunned

Dec. 9, 2:11 p.m. - During room inspections over break, Brophy RAs found a stun gun which is illegal to own in the state of Michigan unless the owner also possesses a concealed carry permit. Case is at DAs office awaiting decision

No insurance

Dec. 9, 6:16 p.m. - Non-student woman was going door to door in the West Campus Apartments allegedly looking for food. Officers made contact with the woman and cited her for driving with a suspended drivers license.

Repeat offender

Dec. 10, 12:16 a.m. - Same suspect from the trespassing case had 3 outstanding warrants in Kent county, they were officially arrested.

The devil's in the details

Dec. 10, 7:12 p.m. - Two women were

arguing in a parking lot on Robins Court over a traffic accident the two had been involved in a week prior, but one of the women ran away before the altercation could progress to violence. No charges were filed.

I just don't understand why

Dec. 14, 12:13 a.m. - A fire extinguisher was stolen from Brophy Hall, the case is still under investigation.

Graduate Graffiti

Dec. 14, 8:26 a.m. - Someone spray painted graffiti onto one of the university semi truck trailers. This case was closed due to lacking leads.

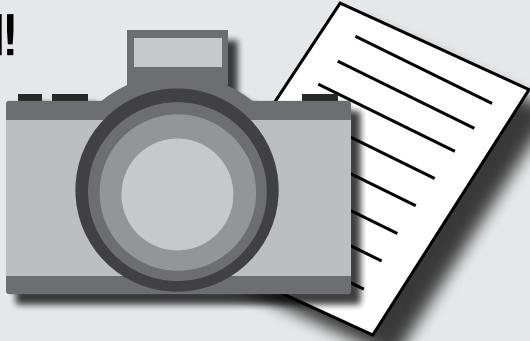
Don'tDash

Dec. 23, 11:45 a.m. - Someone reported that he suspected another student of using his credit card to order nearly \$6,000 in Doordash over 160 times. The DAs office is still deciding how to charge this case due to its unique nature.

Social distance from me, online

Jan. 11, 12:17 p.m. - Female student is being harassed by presumably an ex boyfriend using fake accounts on social media. No charges were filed.

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BRENDAN SANDERS**

Mehler

Continued from front page

Mehler explained that he does not use this teaching style in his genocide class, due to the dark nature of the content. He acknowledges that his teaching style is not for everyone, especially those who are particularly type A, as his classes can often be chaotic. However, over the years he has had many students who appreciate his unconventional style.

The Viral Video

Mehler's introduction video has quickly gone viral, amassing millions of views over multiple platforms.

"It's not like this was somehow an un-hinged rant. It was a carefully scripted performance. Just like a performance you watch on TV," Mehler said.

A big criticism of the video is the amount of profanity and vulgar language Mehler used.

"My introduction was content laden, not profanity laden. The profanity was a way of communicating," Mehler said.

One of the primary issues addressed in the video are Mehler's concerns regarding COVID-19, specifically because he is 75 years old.

"This is an issue that's life and death to me. I'm not exaggerating when I say I'm terrified. Karen (his wife) and I have been in this home for two years now. We do not go anywhere, and we bring no one into our home. So now you want me to go stand in a classroom with 50 students, half of them unvaccinated, with a little mask on?" Mehler said.

Mehler explained that he believes the university is putting "profits over people." He wants the university to have a vaccine mandate for faculty, students and staff.

He believes that a big reason the video has gone viral has to do with people's reaction to leadership surrounding the pandemic.

"All around the world, people realize we cannot give in to this irrational behavior. We

have to resist it and we [need] leadership, especially from an educational institution," Mehler said.

While Mehler was advised to delete the video, he has decided to keep it up because he believes it is an educational video that is making a point.

Mehler explained that since the video went viral, he has received numerous threats. In fact, one email told him to "watch his back." This is not Mehler's first experience with controversy. In the 1990s Mehler went onto "ABC World News Tonight" to speak out against the book "The Bell Curve," which made the argument that Black people were inferior to white people.

"I've been at the center of controversy my entire career. You don't fight against racism without people attacking you, and people threatening to sue you, and people threatening your life," Mehler said.

University Response

The Monday after the video went viral, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Randy Cagle, reached out to Mehler demanding that Mehler come to a Zoom meeting with him and an attorney from the McKessy House. They told him that it was not a disciplinary meeting, but he could bring a union representative if he wanted.

Mehler decided to have Charles Bacon, the Ferris Faculty Association union president, be his union representative. Bacon explained that the union will be standing behind Mehler because they believe this is a challenge to academic freedom.

Later, Cagle informed Mehler that he was being put on administrative leave. The next day, Mehler received a message from Cagle, who explained he had made a mistake in the letter and Mehler was being suspended, not put on leave.

"People don't seem to understand at all. I've been defamed. I've been treated like a criminal. I've been publicly humiliated. They took down my bio from the university as if I never worked there. They stripped my Canvas pages of all the content," Mehler said.

Mehler noted that he is not allowed to return to his classroom, but he is optimistic that this will change next week.

Bacon explained that the union will be with Mehler throughout all meetings during the upcoming investigation. Then, once the university's investigation is completed, a recommendation will be made to Cagle, who will then determine the disciplinary action. Bacon added that it is currently too early to know what the ruling will be.

"This attack on academic freedom is going viral and has been picked up nationally, so I expect that Dr. Eisler is going to get a lot of attention on his coercive and intimidating tactics," Bacon said.

Ferris issued a statement last week soon after the video went viral.

"Ferris State University is aware of a course video distributed to students, in early January, by a faculty member, believed to be Professor Barry Mehler. The faculty member has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation," the statement said.

Additionally, Ferris President David Eisler provided the following statement, "I was shocked and appalled by this video. It is profane, offensive, and disturbing and in no way reflects our university or its values."

The Torch reached out to Randy Cagle, but he was not available for comment.

What's Next?

Before the viral video, Mehler was planning to retire in December. In the last two years before retirement, a pro-

fessor can choose to teach half the time. Mehler wanted to request to teach remotely, but he is no longer sure that it will be approved.

In terms of getting back into the classroom, Mehler is hopeful that within the next week he will be back to his regularly scheduled show.

"My attorney is sending the university a letter on Monday demanding that they put me back into the classroom or we're going to court," Mehler said.

Mehler is also hoping to have a strike vote among Ferris' union faculty members to demand that Ferris institute a vaccine mandate.

"I am preparing a special edition of 'More Bad News: the union edition.' It's my next show. I am writing the script now and the URL will be unlisted and brought only to faculty FFA members," Mehler said.

The goal of this show is to encourage the faculty to move forward and work together to convince the administration to implement new rules and regulations regarding the ongoing pandemic.

Noah Kurkjian contributed to the reporting of this article

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Get Fit!

The Ferris Recreation Center launched their new program to motivate students to get active

Jerry Gaytan
News Reporter

This past week, the Ferris University Recreation Center introduced a new fitness and wellness coaching program.

The new fitness and wellness coaching program will be offering four different programs based on student's schedule and fitness goals. The program is overseen by Justin Harden, Ferris' director of campus recreation and wellness programs.

"Our main goal is to teach students the proper ways to work out and how to use machines," Harden said. "Then we are going to connect with those students weekly."

As of now, there are currently two fitness trainers employed by the recreation center. One of the fitness trainers is Alison Reinig, a freshman at Ferris.

"I hope to see this program expand and maybe even come up with more programs in the future," Reinig said.

The program is now in action and currently has five students signed up to start their program and reach their personal health goals.

The Programs

The program consists of four different levels of workouts based on the student's level of experience and knowledge of working out. The programs are lifting 101, strength training, cardio/strength and group workouts.

Lifting 101 is tailored to students who have little to no experience or knowledge of working out in an atmosphere like the recreation center. It consists of a four-week program in which participants work side by side with a fitness trainer. The trainer will teach them about muscle groups and the proper form required to safely operate lifts

and other equipment.

The strength training program is made for experienced students who are looking to shock their muscles and build strength. This program can last for either four or eight weeks. An added nutritional piece to this program is available if the student chooses this option.

The third program is the cardio/strength program. It is designed to aid students in weight loss, while creating strength and toning muscles. This is a four week program that consists of 30-minute interval training for four to five days per week.

The group workout program is for those who don't like working out all on their own. This program allows students to come with a group of friends to work out with the fitness coaches. These classes consist of cardio and weight training.

To Join

1. Visit Ferris UREC Website.
2. On the right of the page under "UNIVERSITY RECREATION" click "Fitness & Wellness."
3. One the drop menu click "Fitness Coaching."
4. Browse and read through the programs.
5. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the "Sign up Form" box.
6. The Microsoft form is where students will put in their information, goals, chosen program and lifting background.

The form will then be sent to Harden, who then will distribute them to the two fitness trainers. The trainers will then read through the form, set up a consultation and create a program tailored for the student's goals, schedule and experience.

For more information, visit the Ferris UREC website.



Photo by: Bradley Moore | Torch Photographer

Workout plans will be tailored to students abilities based off of four experience tiers.

Telling women #IAmRemarkable

Reminding women that they should be unashamed to self-promote

Rebecca Witkowski
News Reporter

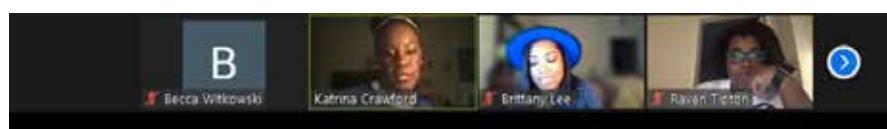
Women came together to remind each other that #IAmRemarkable and to celebrate the professional accomplishments and feats that society makes them feel they should shy away from discussing.

The presentation took place Friday evening and was facilitated by Kristina Crawford. About 17 women ranging from Michigan to Texas discussed self-promotion, self-advocation and differences in workplace treatment.

#IAmRemarkable is a global initiative run by Google to encourage women to embrace their achievements and to use their full potential in the workplace. After becoming a facilitator for the initiative, Crawford went to her chapter of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority graduate chapter based in Mount Pleasant.

"I brought this to the sorority, they loved it and we do the program at least once a year," Crawford said. "To, you know, make sure that folks know how remarkable they are, and that women are empowered to advocate for themselves."

The presentation provided encouragement as well as facts to motivate young women to advocate for themselves and their professional abilities. For example, the presentation claimed that compa-



#IAmRemarkable

Real impact

As of Dec 2021

- Over 300K workshop participants
- 4,000+ Active facilitators
- 150+ countries

AS A RESULT OF THE WORKSHOP (3 months after):

- 49% experienced job/career growth
- 82% feel more confident
- 89% are self-promoting more often

Source: #IAmRemarkable Impact Research conducted by Ipsos MORI

#IAmRemarkable was created in 2016 by Anna Vainer and Anna Zapesochini.



Photo by: Rebecca Witkowski | News Reporter

Vainer and Zapesochini noticed that women and other underrepresented populations had a hard time with self-advocating and speaking openly about their accomplishments. The initiative quickly grew and became popular among various agencies, universities and various other customers.

"This program might not be the ownership of the sorority, but because our member is a facilitator and has done an awesome job, we have taken it on as a chapter ownership," Traci Buckley, assistant vice president for inclusive excellence at the University of Texas San Antonio and sorority chapter member said. "We'd like to help other people realize how phenomenal and remarkable they are as well."

Before COVID-19, the presentation usually took place in person. Now, the presentation has moved to a completely online format. It is expected that when the pandemic begins to wane, there will be both online and in-person formats for the presentation.

After the presentation, it was announced that the Zeta Phi Beta sorority was hoping to reactivate the Kappa Theta chapter at Ferris State University. The organization will be present at a tabling event on Jan. 25, as well as providing information in the IRC on Feb. 5.

nies with women on their board of directors outperformed others by 53%. Crawford also explained that when women feel comfortable speaking up about their accomplishments, it indirectly gives other women permission to speak highly about their

own accomplishments.

"It's not bragging if it's based on facts," the presentation stated. "Accomplishments do not speak for themselves."

#IAmRemarkable was created in 2016 by Anna Vainer and Anna Zapesochini.

LIFESTYLES

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

PB & what?

Meghan Hartley

Lifestyles Reporter

The peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a childhood classic, made a comeback on our college campus, delighting students on their first day back.

On Monday, Jan. 10, the Center for Student Involvement hosted its first event of the semester. They invited students to make their own peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

The sweet and salty event was curated by CSI events coordinator Nick Smith in hopes that it would remind students of their first day of school when they were younger.

"It's a really simple kind of throwback," Smith said. "A good way to kind of relax on the first day of class, and food brings people together. [It's] just a really fun way to just stop in and grab some food."

The sandwich-making station was held in the university center, not too far away from the book store, which Smith said was perfect, since there was already a built-in audience of students coming to collect their books.

Madison MacDowell, the president of Entertainment Unlimited, said she had noticed the event going on as she was getting her parking pass and figured she would come to check it out.

"Immediately I thought of when I was in kindergarten or first grade and my parents would pack me a lunch for school," MacDowell said. "It's funny too because the bread is the exact same brand of bread I had, and I was like, oh, I feel like a kid again. That was the first thing I thought of, just that nostalgic aspect."

The feeling of childhood nostalgia and

excitement for the first day of school stemming from a unique event is what had students stopping and taking part. MacDowell says Smith and Nicholas Campau, the associate dean of student life, come up with different events all the time with the help of their student staff and EU.

"Nothing shocks me anymore with them and the ideas they have," MacDowell said. "They have very creative minds behind it and that's how these events come to life. Last semester, towards the end of finals week, they brought in reindeer and a hot cocoa bar, that was really cool!"

The CSI office and its staff work hard with students to be able to throw exciting and unique events that blow students away when they come to them.

Leah Thomas, a student studying environmental biology, had frozen with excitement when she saw that she would be able to make her own PB and J.

"I actually wanted a peanut butter and jelly all day," Thomas said. "I saw my suitemate have one and I thought that looks so good! Coming here and knowing I could eat all I want, it's the best day of my life!"

Thomas said she remembers going to school with Uncrustables for lunch, and this event made her remember so many memories as a kid.

There are many unique events that the CSI hosts to engage students and make lasting memories. Especially with an event involving the sweet and salty classic at the beginning of the semester, it can get students excited for other events that will come next.

"We thought, how cool would it be if we

The Center for Student Involvement brought a bit of childhood to adulthood



Photo by: Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

CSI plans on having events going on every week through out the semester.

did this?" Smith said. "Everyone was like, yeah, that sounds fun, and I think people have had fun so far and we're just getting started."

The CSI has multiple events planned every week this semester, from weekly trivia nights to headphone disco. One of their biggest events coming up is the

University Center anniversary celebration happening this Saturday.

Students who want to stay up to date on upcoming events can head to Bulldog Connect and view the electronic events calendar.



Photo by: Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

Hayden Grable, Meg Losey and friends enjoy their sandwiches and snacks while discussing plans for the spring semester.

Breaking back in after break

How some students spent their winter break

Giuliana Denicolo
Lifestyles Reporter

After a long and busy semester, Ferris students finally made it to their well deserved winter break and got to spend it however they imagined.

Sophomore Robert Palmer lives in Berkley, Michigan. He spent part of his winter break celebrating one of his family's annual traditions.

"Every year my family and I go "after Christmas" shopping because of all the good deals that occur in our area," Palmer said.

Palmer's family tradition was a good way to bond with his family, even if they just spent the time window shopping.

"We didn't buy anything, but I still had a fun time spending my holiday with my family," Palmer said. "As I see them very

rarely, [with me] being on the other side of the state."

As this is a tradition Palmer and his family have been doing for years, he has seen it change with the current state of the world.

"This year it was different," Palmer said. "When COVID first pushed its way into [the] world, stores and malls were not even considering opening. Hell, the thought of shopping during that time was simply all that it could be, a thought."

Although Palmer and his family stayed safe this winter break, COVID-19 was a very present and common theme in his town, where the guidelines are a lot stricter.

"The forethought of COVID was a massive culture shock when visiting the east side of the state," Palmer said. "There were a lot more restrictions than there

are here in the west."

Sophomore Jenna Pasfield lives in Howell, Michigan. She spent her break with friends and family. She managed to go out and have a fun time while staying safe and healthy.

"I am currently vaccinated with my booster, and I still wear a mask in public places," Pasfield said.

She got to celebrate Christmas with all her family, where they ate dinner and opened gifts. For New Years, she went out with a couple of her friends.

At the beginning of her break, she and a few friends decided to go on a road trip.

"My roommates and I asked [our friend] if she was interested in going to the Appalachian mountains with us," Pasfield said.

This spontaneous plan stemmed from their love of the outdoors, as well as to do

something fun over break.

"We all love being outside in nature," Pasfield said. "So, we all [alternated] driving [for] nine hours and stayed in a shed in the woods," Pasfield said.

They spent their time enjoying nature, the mountains and getting away to experience something new.

"[There was] no electricity or plumbing, and we hiked for like two days," Pasfield said.

Going on a road trip is a great way to start off your break, especially to de-stress after a long semester.

Winter break is always full of opportunities to have fun and get a chance to relax, while also staying safe.

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Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Productions Assistant

Media Minute

9-1-1: Lone Star season three premiere delivers a cold shock to viewers

Charlie Buckel
Freelance Reporter

Spoiler Alert: This article contains spoilers for season two and the first episode of season three of "9-1-1: Lone Star."

I was both excited and anxious when tuning in to the season premiere of "9-1-1: Lone Star" because I know the series and its originator go all out for the opening to new seasons. The show follows a team of firefighters from Station 126 in Austin, Texas, and season three begins after the team is split up because the firehouse closed at the end of season two.

Going into its third season on the air, "9-1-1: Lone Star" follows the pattern set by previous seasons by traumatizing both their characters and their audience, myself included.

"Lone Star" opens season three by taking inspiration from the real world and depicting the freeze and power crisis that actually impacted the state of Texas in 2021. The situation gives

the show runners ample opportunity to run the characters through the wringer.

One of the most jarring moments of the first episode happens when a group of immature guys decides to pull each other on skis down a frozen roadway. When a slab of ice is thrown from the top of a moving truck, it lands in the neck of one of the men being pulled on skis.

Through this, we get to see the paramedic team of Tommy (Gina Torres), TK (Ronen Rubenstein) and Nancy (Brianna Baker) jump into action and try to save the man from bleeding out by making sure the ice slab sticking out of his neck doesn't melt, since it is blocking an artery.

Meanwhile, firefighter Marjan (Natacha Karam) decides to brave the snowstorm in order to go see if she can convince her old boss, Owen Strand (Rob Lowe), to come back to work in order to save their former firehouse. She's unsuccessful in her mission. Marjan and Owen's interactions then end with Marjan leaving and

sliding off a snowy road and crashing, while Owen decides to walk his dog in the snow before finding a man unconscious.

Finally, when the roof on a building that was being used to shelter people collapses, firefighters Judd (Jim Parrack), Paul (Brian Michael Smith) and Mateo (Julian Works) all go in to save a teenage girl trapped inside. The situation only gets worse when more of the building comes down, trapping Paul inside as well.

With that, we're waiting for the next episode, not knowing if two of the main characters are okay and waiting to see if one can keep a half-frozen man alive.



Leaving the audience on a cliff-hanger like that is one of the main tactics that the writers use in order to make people want to come back the next week, and it works. Fans have had two seasons to become attached to these characters, and they leave us wanting more by putting them in danger. It's a tactic that was copied from the original "911" series, which has the same creator and writers, so it is no surprise that they use a trick they know will work.

"9-1-1: Lone Star" is a phenomenal show that shows just how dangerous some situations that emergency personnel handle can be. It also gives the audience characters and relationships they can care about and root for, all the while giving watchers a heart attack every time it seems like a favorite character may perish, which is a lot.

Created and produced by Ryan Murphy, Bryan Falchuk and Tim Minear, "9-1-1: Lone Star" airs Mondays at 8 p.m. on Fox, with next day streaming on Hulu.



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OPINIONS

Rebecca VanderKooi | Opinions Editor | vandr122@ferris.edu

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EDITOR'S COLUMN: Disappointment in this field

By Brendan Sanders

For the second time in a little over a year, a Ferris State professor has made national news! That is impressive for a college that no one really knows about!

Of course, once again the narrative has been overwhelmingly negative towards the professor involved. While the first professor was definitely warranted, this story is different. If you read our cover story this week, you can see why.

My biggest issue is the portrayal of this situation by the media. The media, working on a time crunch, forced out half-baked stories that completely missed what went on with this video. Nearly every story that I saw come out on the situation last week consisted of exactly two sources.

A canned quote from the university, and the video itself. No interviews or actual information.

In every journalism class we have taken, we are taught to do everything we can to grab three sources. Three sources give readers a multitude of different perspectives that add clarity to the story. So, it amazes me when journalists are happy to run with as few sources as possible.

Alongside this, we are given extensive training in doing interviews and asking questions.

Because they ran with so few sources, they made a false narrative about this professor. The public ate up this narrative and made Ferris suspend him for a skit.

Any good journalist should know that there is usually more to the story than meets the eye. So why is it that everyone ran with two sources? One of which is a video that has no context around it?

Yes, we got the exclusive interview with Mehler, which we are grateful for. But, why didn't a single local journalist look at the comment section of several articles and realize, huh, there are people defending this crazy video? Why did they not reach out to a faculty member? Why didn't they reach out to Charles Bacon, the man who leads the Ferris Faculty Administration? These are not hard contacts to find.

The first thought is obviously timeliness, which admittedly has some merit. Even our first online story that we posted is like this. What you saw last week.

I look at what WOODTV 8, WZZM 13, and FOX 17 all put out locally. These stories consisted of the TV coverage that they did showing a cut-up of the video, a voice-over giving highlights, and the quote from President Eisler. At no point do they dig any deeper. The only point of their coverage is to get views of their own show and give the public a quick rundown of what happened. Which they were successful at.

I don't even blame them. In television, life moves at you fast, so you take the quickest road to cover this stuff and move on. You only have at most 5 minutes to tell a story. They almost almost have to leave out details and can usually spend one day on any subject. That is just part of this business, and I respect that.

What angers me more is that large print and online media sources had time to create a better story and chose not to. They wanted to cash in on the easy views and the easy clicks. The reason modern journalism has become a sort of mockery.

Just look up some of the stories posted by NY Post, MLive, Washington Post and Fox News. Not one of these national media organizations did anything more than the bare minimum in covering this story. Instead, they broke down the easiest source they could and milked it for views. All they needed was the video and the university quote and they just shoveled it to the public.

At least the New York Times and InsideHigherEd.com got quotes from Charles Bacon. Congrats to them for doing their jobs well enough to get an outside source and interview them.

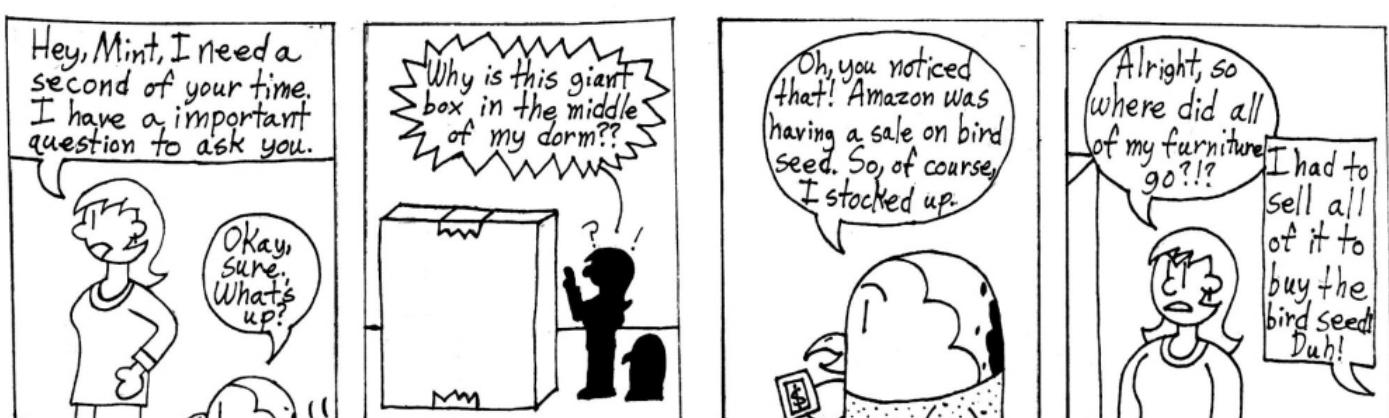
The first issue that needs to be resolved is the issue of timeliness. Everyone did so well at getting their stories out that they were unable to get everything that actually went on in this situation. The idea of being first over being accurate when a story goes viral is a dangerous but accurate view of this industry. Thus, I offer this, if you aren't one of the first organizations to break the story, maybe pull back and use the extra time to add something useful to the piece. Not just regurgitate the same thing for views.

I knew we were beaten timeliness wise, thus after writing one quick piece to show everyone we were on the story, we actually did our jobs and delivered the truth.

The other issue is the effort put in by influential news organizations. When the journalist does not do any interviews, the story is usually a joke. Thus, nearly every story I saw last week was a joke to this industry. It is no wonder why a large amount of the American public distrusts this profession, national media organizations are too lazy to do more than the bare minimum.

party animals

Angelica Rosenthal



GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

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Brendan Sanders | Editor-in-Chief | Email: 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!

Regarding Dr. Mehler

Why his viral video doesn't show you the entire picture of the man

Dylan Rider
Torch Reporter

Humanities professor Dr. Barry Mehler was suspended on Tuesday, November 11th.

This decision from the administration came after a viral video was posted online presumably by one of Mehler's students. A complaint was then filed. In a statement, President Eisler coined the video as "profane, offensive, and disturbing."

Funny enough, the only thing truly disturbing about the situation is Dr. Mehler's suspension to begin with. Administration's choice to suspend a tenured professor with plans to retire within a year and threaten termination is downright ridiculous and shows the respect the university lacks for their tenured professors.

Mehler is a cornerstone of Ferris State University. He predates Eisler and his administration by 15 years, beginning his time with the university in 1988. Mehler, who had been nominated for a distinguished teacher award in the past, had his hand in the SHOAH Archives and the Just Detention International, which has been nominated for a Nobel Prize.

There's a different Mehler once you enter his classroom. His accomplishments get reflected in how he teaches. He's a bit eccentric in his teaching but you learn from it. You're able to listen to the man and you're able to comprehend him. It begins to make you think. It's engaging. There's not much better you can do than what Mehler does.

As a former student of Mehler's, I can attest to his eccentricness and his pes-

simism about life. You won't ever catch yourself sleeping in his class. He says odd things, he makes his class his show, and he plays his character. This is what is seen in that viral video.

If you haven't had a class with Mehler, the video is concerning. However, that's Mehler in character. In no way is Mehler being truly malicious. All Mehler was looking to do was make a point. Mehler is 74 years old. With a variant cropping up that has higher transmission than anything we've seen, of course he's going to be concerned.

Seeing such misunderstanding about Mehler and his beliefs is frustrating. I'd encourage taking a class with him and getting the picture that I have. However, the administration seems to want to make this impossible.

Eisler and his pre-planned and flat statements are truly bothersome when it comes to being about one of the longest tenured professors who has done so much. Mehler is more Ferris than Eisler has ever been. Whether you like it or not, Mehler represents what Ferris needs to be. For an institution that prides itself in being "forward" it sure looks like every step taken by Eisler and his administration has been backwards.

Eisler had also said in his heartless statement that Mehler's video "in no way reflects our University or its values." I believe this to be incorrect. Mehler's video has more value than Eisler and his administration and the university combined. Ferris State University needs Mehler for that reason. I hope to see him teaching again soon.

New year new nothing

If you have been conscious in the last two years, you deserve an award

New Year's Resolutions



Graphic by: Rebecca VanderKooi

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

As the new year's celebrations have come and gone, nearly 50% of Americans are projected to make new year's resolutions. However, only 8% are projected to keep to their resolutions, and I say good.

The concept of the new year's resolution dates back over 4,000 years to the Babylonians. Their resolutions were less about bettering themselves but reaffirming their allegiances to their royalty and their gods.

According to history.com, the Babylonians were also considered the first to celebrate the new year, although their new year started in mid-March following the growing season.

Today, the modern new year's resolution is non-secular and more about bettering oneself, and I think we need just to abolish the practice.

First and foremost, the last two years have been excruciating. We have all been burning the candle at both ends and amid another surge in the pandemic, we don't need more stacked on. If you have been conscious in the last two years, you deserve an award.

If you feel you must put forth some resolution, start small. Dr. Lazarus told CNET that people tend to fail because they set their sights too high.

"What might be more productive is to be more aware of what we're doing and how it impacts us on an ongoing basis so that we can be making adjustments in our lives to move towards what we really care about," Dr. Lazarus said.

For example, if you want to stop eating sweets in 2022, quitting cold turkey will get you nowhere. However, reducing a daily cookie with coffee to a weekend treat can make the task seem far less substantial.

Furthermore, we tend to focus on the negative. If you want to make a resolution, don't focus on what you need to fix, but what positive changes you could implement.

"Mindfulness is the basic human ability to be fully present, aware of where we are and what we're doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed by what's going on around us," according to mindfulness.org.

This doesn't require an extensive routine or any supplies, really, just taking a moment to be present where you are, not thinking about your other responsibilities, not on your phone or distracted by content, just you and yourself for a few minutes.

This could be as simple as focusing on your breathing in bed for a few minutes after you wake up or just enjoying a silent drive home with yourself.

We don't need to place excess pressure on ourselves to improve, especially by an arbitrary date. If you want to set goals to better yourself, do so at your own pace and for your own reasons, not because a calendar tells you it's time to become a better human.

SPORTS

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

COVID-19 and Athletics



Graphic by: Dylan Bowden | Production Manager

Athletics minimizes COVID-19 during fall, leaving cautious optimism for spring season

Dylan Rider
Torch Reporter

Ferris athletics' attempts to return to normal in a COVID-19 ridden world seem to be working well.

During the fall season, athletics posted low COVID-19 cases throughout their programs with high vaccination rates.

Associate athletic director Rob Bentley shared his thoughts on how the seasons went.

"I think we're doing well," Bently said. "Obviously from the athletics standpoint, we haven't had any team shutdowns or anything. No major issues. A lot of it is due to the fact that I think our student athletes and our coaches have taken it seriously and had a lot of practice going through it last year."

The fall season in 2020 had massive changes made to some team's play. Bentley also explained that sports like volleyball and soccer had their seasons shortened and pushed to the spring.

However, the fall season in 2021 returned to more of a traditional schedule. Keeping COVID-19 cases low was imperative for the continuation of athletics.

"We haven't had any shutdowns with less than 20 cases in athletics all fall," head athletic director Brett Knight said. "And so obviously a lot of credit to our staff, to our student athletes, to our coaches and administrators. We've all worked really hard to keep our athletes playing and keep our teams participating. So it's a good relief because things feel normal."

Knight added that any COVID-19 cases present in Ferris's sports teams were spread out amongst programs.

In addition to the low COVID-19 numbers, Knight also said that all athletics has a 90% vaccination rate against COVID-19. For the 10% of athletes that are unvaccinated,

they are required to submit a medical or religious exemption waiver before they were cleared to play. Those who submit this waiver are required to take COVID-19 tests three times a week. Vaccinated athletes are not required to test unless they are symptomatic.

From a student athlete standpoint, there seems to be satisfaction with the way athletics has operated this semester. Nick Grimaldi, a freshman on the hockey team, spoke on athletic procedures.

"I think Ferris has done pretty good with COVID-19 protocols and everything," Grimaldi said. "On the hockey team, we haven't had any issues. If anyone feels down, we get tested and stay away from the team until you get results back."

Grimaldi also spoke about feeling safe knowing that his teammates are vaccinated.

In the fall, all sports had returned, along with the fans. Ferris athletics hopes to continue this. However, with the emergence of the Omicron variant, there is some concern from athletics moving into the spring semester.

In professional sports, the Omicron variant has postponed games, caused pauses and added numerous players to COVID-19 lists. According to the New York Times, Michigan is experiencing a daily average of 16,048 COVID-19 cases.

With Omicron carrying a higher transmission rate, athletics has some worries about the events it will be able to hold. Knight voiced his concerns about the return of both students and student athletes.

"The biggest concern is that we've all been away from campus for certain periods of time," Knight said. "I think that's why we're seeing a big surge right now in the community, state and nationally. I certainly think we're going to see that. It's a concern for people's health but also we know there's gonna be disruptions in events and schedules

and maybe even a changing of policy, whether it's from campus or [the] state, or the university or [the] NCAA."

Knight also stated that athletics considers and compares NCAA suggestions regarding protocol with state and local health departments to make their decisions on what would work best for athletics.

Unlike the initial two doses of the vaccine, the booster shot is not being mandated by athletics, though it is strongly recommended.

Junior women's basketball point guard Mallory McCartney shared her concerns related to the Omicron variant and student athletes making a return.

"I think there's always a concern just when it comes to anything COVID-19," McCartney said. "So whether it be a different variant or whatever strain it is, it's just always a concern that we can shut down just how we did before and not be with each other [or] play with each other."

Despite the concerns with COVID-19, head hockey coach Bob Daniels remains optimistic in the athletics department's ability to continue winter sports.

"I have faith that they'll make all the right decisions," Daniels said. "I thought they made all the right decisions a year ago, I really did. I continue to feel that way. Obviously, at the end of the day, I think all of us take the health of not only the athletes but all students here very seriously. As long as I think we continue to be guided by that principle, that the number one thing is health and safety, we'll continue to make all the right decisions."

With both concerns and faith held by those in and around athletics, the main goal will be to continue the upcoming seasons with no illness or pauses. With sports like hockey and basketball continuing their fight, there will surely be a heightened sense of caution throughout.

Ferris splits with St. Thomas-again



Photo by Amelia Reed | Torch Photographer

Marshall Moise (left) and Dallas Tulik (right) compete for the puck behind the Tommies' net during their 3-1 victory Friday night.

Brody Keiser
Sports Editor
Dylan Rider contributed to this article.

Ferris now has two losses against the last-placed team in the CCHA.

The St. Thomas Tommies (2-22, 2-16 CCHA) stand in last place in the CCHA, six points behind the Bulldogs (7-17, 5-11 CCHA).

In the second and final series meeting with the Tommies, the Bulldogs won the first game 3-1 Friday, Jan. 15, but the Tommies prevailed 4-3 on Saturday.

Earlier this season, Ferris went to St. Thomas and won the first meeting 2-1 on Friday, Oct. 22, but the Tommies avoided that sweep as well and won 5-2 the next night.

Following the Bulldogs' win on Jan. 15, head coach Bob Daniels spoke on what his team needed to do to get the sweep.

"We have to continue to move the puck," Daniels said. "All we can do is put our best game on the ice tomorrow night and that's what the mantra is going to be to the guys."

On Jan. 15, senior defenseman Blake Evennou picked up his first goal of the season and Ferris took a 1-0 lead early in the second. Senior forward Ethan Stewart and sophomore forward Jacob Dirks assisted.

Ferris scored their second goal of the evening at 5:25 in the third

period when senior forward Marshall Moise picked up his sixth goal of the season. Evennou and senior forward Liam MacDougall assisted on the play.

"It was 1-0 going into the third period and that goal that Marshall Moise scored to put us up two was a big goal for us," Daniels said.

At 7:00 in the third, senior forward Justin Michaelian picked up his seventh goal of the season. Sophomore forwards Mitch Deelstra and Stepan Pokorny assisted.

The Tommies got a power play opportunity following a slashing penalty from freshman forward Nick Nardecchia at 15:28 and scored their first goal of the night at 16:27, cutting the Bulldog lead to 3-1.

Ferris held off the Tommies' comeback and emerged victorious.

"It took a whole team effort," Evennou said. "We played a whole 60 minutes, and we have to continue to do that. The job's not over, we have to get it done tomorrow as well."

Ferris was unable to get the job done Saturday, losing 4-3.

Daniels had "mixed emotions" following the loss and was "very disappointed" overall.

"I feel bad for the guys," Daniels said. "I was really, really proud of their 'stick-to-itiveness,' being down three going into the third. Plus we had to start by killing the first five minutes we were short-handed. So we got the kill

and we scored three goals in the last 15 minutes to tie it. Obviously it's pretty depressing having them score late for us to lose."

St. Thomas scored twice in the first period, putting the Bulldogs in a hole early on.

The second period began with the Bulldogs looking to avenge that two goal deficit. Seven minutes into the second period, the Bulldogs got a power play. Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, St. Thomas got a breakaway and scored a shorthanded goal. This increased the Tommies' lead to 3-0. The second period ended with the Tommies holding a seemingly insurmountable lead.

Four minutes into the third, the Bulldogs had a 5-3 man advantage and finally got a goal from Stewart.

With six minutes remaining, Dirks cut the Tommies' lead to 3-2. At 18:30, Ferris pulled their goalie and Evennou slotted the tying goal.

The Bulldogs hoped for overtime, but St. Thomas scored with three seconds left in the game to wrap a 4-3 victory.

Ferris outshot the Tommies 41-16 in the loss. Freshman goalie Noah Giesbrecht took the loss.

Ferris will be on the road for their next two games at Bemidji State on Friday, Jan. 21 and Saturday, Jan. 22 before returning home to face Bowling Green State the following weekend.

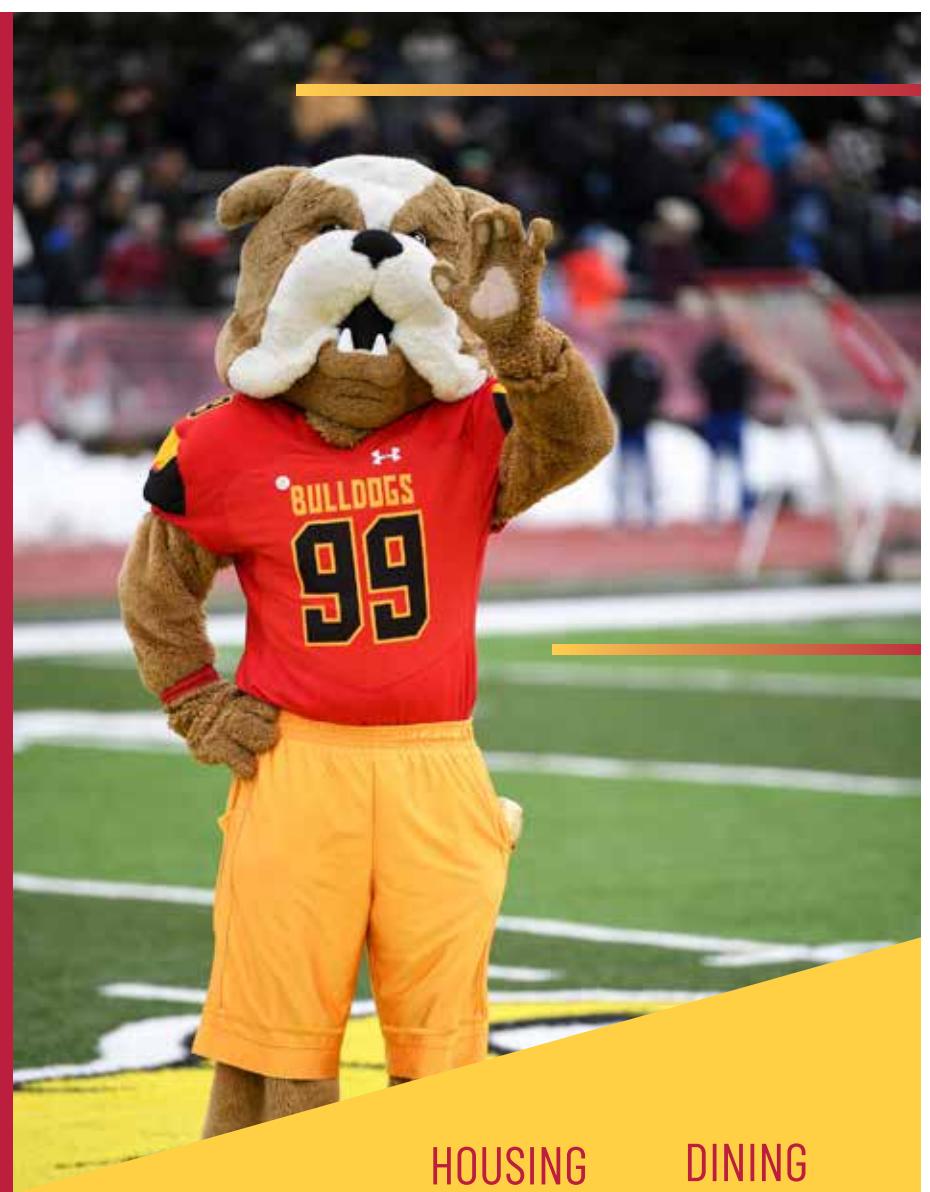
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Bulldog hoops carry on

Men's and Women's basketball complete slate of winter break games

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

As the second semester gets underway, fans have begun to file into Wink Arena to watch Bulldog Basketball. While fans have had a winter break, the Ferris men's and women's basketball teams have continued with competition through the holidays. To catch up on all the action, here's a rundown of all the contests you may have missed.

Dec. 30: Ferris men suffer setback to Lewis

In their final game of 2021, the Bulldogs fell to the hosting Flyers by a final score of 90-85. Despite trailing by 26 points early in the second half, the Bulldogs nearly completed the comeback behind 60% shooting from three-point range. Ben Davidson led Ferris with 25 points and eight rebounds off the bench. Jimmy Scholler also added three assists.

Dec. 31: Ferris State slips in regional matchup with Indianapolis

After starting the year 10-1, the women's squad's ten-game winning streak was snapped by the Greyhounds 78-66. The game was close to even throughout the majority of the contest, but a hot fourth quarter from Indianapolis gave Ferris their second loss of the season. Chloe Idoni finished top for Ferris with 17 points and eight rebounds, while Mallory McCartney had a team-high three assists.

Jan. 2: Men's fall in 2OT thriller to Minnesota Duluth

Following a pair of cancelled contests due to opposing team's COVID breakouts, the Bulldogs took to Twitter to find an opponent for their first game of the new year. Minnesota Duluth accepted the invitation to play what would be one of the best DII games of the season so far. Despite outrebounding the opposing Minnesota Duluth 54-45, Ferris fell to the current #5 ranked team 109-107 in double overtime. Walt Kelser led the team with 37 points, with Logan Ryan adding nine rebounds and Scholler tallying eight assists.

Jan. 6: Women's squad drops GLIAC opener to Wayne State

The Bulldogs started off the new year on the wrong foot with a 60-45 home loss to the opposing Warriors. Ferris was outrebounded 50-29 in the contest as well as shot only 25% from the floor. McCartney led the team with 13 points. Ellie Dykstra and Kadyn Blanchard each totaled six rebounds with Zoe Anderson picking up four assists.

Jan. 8: Bulldogs bounce back against Cardinals

With a chance to take the top spot in the conference standings, the women's team was able earn the #1 seat with a home victory against 9-2 Saginaw Valley by a score of 68-59. Despite trailing by eight after the third quarter, Ferris was able to come back using a 25-8 run to close out the nine-point victory. Blanchard paced the game with 25 points. Mya Hirim added 14 rebounds and McCartney distributed five assists.

Jan 8: Ferris holds on to beat Saginaw Valley

In their first conference contest of the season, the Bulldogs used a scorching second half of scoring to defeat the Cardinals 88-84. After beginning the contest shooting 43.2% in the opening half, the men's squad bounced back with a 64% second half effort to take down the nine-win Cardinals. Ferris was led by Lee Higgins scoring 24 points, with senior Dorian Aluyi totaling 13 rebounds and Scholler adding six assists.

Jan 10: 'Dawgs pound Wayne State

After what was original scheduled a Jan. 6 contest, the game was pushed back four days due to COVID protocols within the Wayne State program. Despite the scheduling shift, the Bulldogs used 44 points off the bench to beat the opposing Warriors 104-73. Aluyi and Kelser both finished with 15 points, with Reece Hazelton and Logan Ryan adding seven rebounds apiece. Freshman Ethan Erickson also contributed six assists.

Jan 13: Women's basketball suffers setback to Grand Valley

Ferris fell on the road to the rival Lakers last Thursday 67-59 despite a cutting a 12-point halftime deficit to only five in the final three minutes. The Bulldogs struggled at the free throw line, finishing only 1-8 compared to Grand Valley's 11-16. Adrienne Anderson notched her 1,000th career point at Ferris with an 18-point performance to lead the 'Dawgs. Hirim added seven rebounds and McCartney tallied five assists.

Jan 13: Men's team tops rival Grand Valley on the road

In a close contest tallying over 16 lead changes, the 'Dawgs prevailed in the end over GVSU by a final score of 83-76. Ferris State collected their third straight and seventh overall conference victory by holding the Laker offense to only 30% shooting behind the arc. Aluyi led the team with 23 points and four assists while Kelser added nine rebounds.

Jan 16: 'Dawgs down Davenport

After a tough loss to Grand Valley on Thursday, the women's squad was able to beat the other Grand Rapids GLIAC foe with a 72-55 win over Davenport Saturday. The Bulldogs used a dominating performance inside the paint, outscoring the Panthers 38-16 in the key. Ferris State was led in scoring by Hirim with 15 points off the bench, with McCartney adding a team-high 10 rebounds and six assists.

Both teams currently sit in the top four in the GLIAC standings, with the men in 1st at 7-0 (12-3 overall) and the women in 4th at 6-2 (12-4) overall. Each team will look to earn their 13th win on Thursday to face the Lake Superior State Lakers at home. Tip-off for the women's game will be at 5:30pm with the men's following at 7:30pm. For tickets and more information, visit www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com.

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