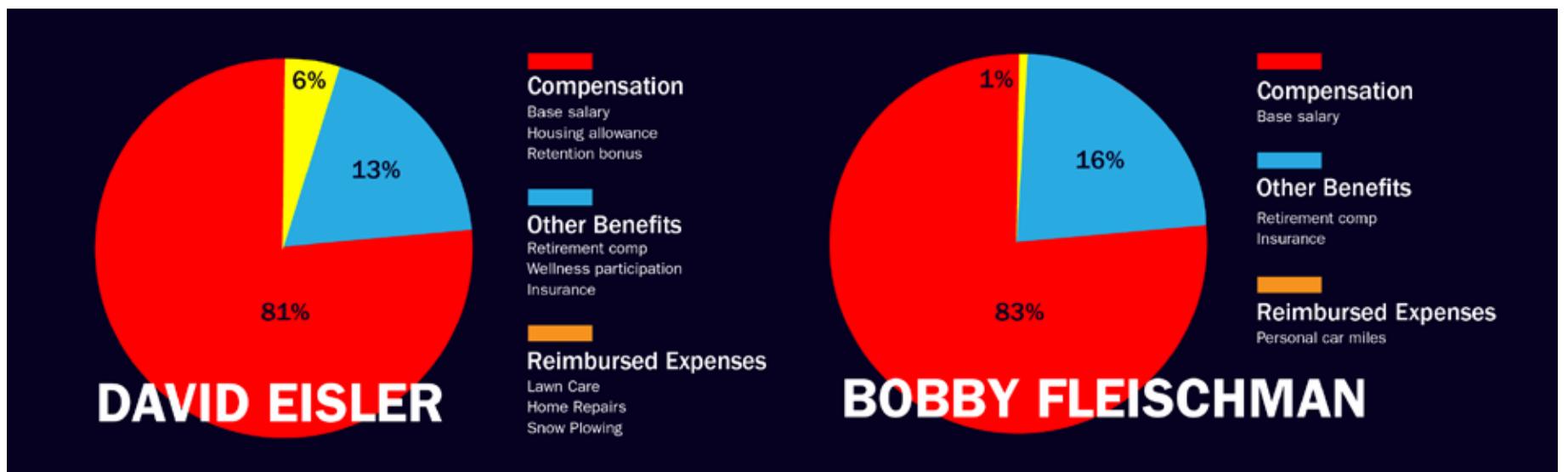


Ferris Faculty Association obtains 2021 compensation information for the president and provost



Graphic by: Dylan Bowden | Production Manager

“That’s a heck of a mortgage payment”

Jessica Oakes
Special Editions Editor

President David Eisler’s \$612,766 compensation package for the year 2021 was broken down in a Freedom of Information Act report requested by UniServ director Brandy Vanderhovel.

While the administrators’ salaries are public, FFA members look for more than what is readily available.

“We get information from the FOIA that is not detailed in the annual salary report.” FFA president Charles Bacon said.

Eisler received \$277,662 in base salary last year. As explained by mechanical engineering professor James Rumpf, this is only a small fraction of “the total cost of having

Dave work here.”

The rest of his compensation includes a \$44,828 housing allowance and a \$175,000 retention bonus.

Because Ferris chooses to offer presidents a housing allowance rather than building and providing a university house, Rumpf referred to this sum of money as “a heck of a mortgage payment.”

“It’s common among all presidents to allow [them] to buy a house on the market,” Rumpf said. “It’s money he gets to keep when he sells the house. So, it’s another form of compensation, but it doesn’t have to be called salary.”

Bacon was particularly intrigued by the large bonus. The FFA wonders what “benefit Ferris earns by giving a retiring president

a retention bonus of \$175,000.”

“Why did Eisler get a \$175,000 retention bonus? Where exactly is he going in his final year? To another university? You use retention bonuses to keep someone,” Bacon said.

Rumpf believes the retention bonus was rewarded after the fact, not as an incentive to stay longer into the future. There is no clarification from the president on this matter as both Eisler and Provost Bobby Fleischman declined the Torch’s offer to provide a comment.

“We don’t know how [the board of trustees] arrives at these decisions,” Rumpf said. “Some of what the board does is subject to open meetings, but they can go into committee, especially to discuss financial

things, and nobody knows what the heck they talk about. When they come out and they pass a motion, that’s public.”

The next category of Eisler’s non-salary benefits includes \$83,848 worth of retirement compensation, long-term disability, wellness participation and insurance coverage. This covers all health expenses from life and health insurance to vision and dental care.

Finally, the president received \$31,428 in reimbursed expenses. This is made up of \$14,961 in lawn care, \$16,272 in-home repairs and \$195 in snow plowing.

Fleischman’s compensation package totaled \$290,199.52 last year. Earning considerably less than the presi-

Salaries | see page 4

Mehler moving forward

Mehler and Ferris reach settlement outside of court

Rebecca Vanderkooi
Opinions Editor

The saga with Dr. Barry Mehler has finally come to an end, as Ferris and Mehler have settled the case outside of court.

Mehler is now officially retired after over 30 years of teaching at Ferris, and he is looking forward to the next chapter in his life.

This news comes after Mehler’s class introduction video went viral at the beginning of the semester, after which he was suspended pending a university investigation.

On Jan. 25, Mehler’s lawyer filed a lawsuit alleging that the suspension was a violation of his First and Fourteenth Amendment rights. On March 7, Mehler’s request for a preliminary injunction in court was denied.

“I am grateful for the administration’s settlement we reached. You can leave feeling bitter or hurt, or you can leave feeling good, and I have to tell you, it’s been a wonderful career. I’ve loved working at Ferris,” Mehler said.

While neither party is allowed to discuss the details of the settlement, both are pleased with the result.

“The parties have amicably resolved their differences,” Ferris said in a statement released by Sandy Gholston, Ferris’ news services and social media manager.

Mehler also explained that he’s grateful for the controversial end to his career at Ferris. He didn’t realize the number of students’ lives he touched, and during the controversy, many reached out showing their support.

“The word that’s used repeatedly is

transformative, that my teaching has really affected lives. People have said that I’m the most influential professor... I really wouldn’t have known. So, the controversy has turned out to be a blessing in so many different ways,” Mehler said.

While Mehler is now retired and just celebrated his 75th birthday, he shows no signs of slowing down.

In the fall semester of 2022, there will be a tribute, most likely virtual, that Mehler’s colleagues are putting on. The tribute will showcase his career at Ferris, his eugenics work, the Shoah Archive and other work outside of Ferris.

Additionally, a professor in New Orleans is going over the hundreds of correspondences Mehler has from the 70s and 80s with prisoners as part of his work to prevent sexual abuse in prisons. The professor will

be writing a book on their findings.

“I was able to get a young man released from prison, [and] he and I started this organization, which is today, Just Detention International,” Mehler said.

The organization has been nominated for a 2022 Nobel Peace Prize. Regardless of the result, Mehler has expressed gratitude for the opportunity to create and grow an organization that addresses sexual abuse in prisons and refugee camps all over the world.

While Mehler’s time as a professor at Ferris has ended, he will be celebrating his career in the fall with a virtual event sponsored by ISAR, which the Torch will be covering.

Got news? Let us know.

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NEWS

Noah Kurkjian | News Editor | kurkjin@ferris.edu

An updated COVID-19 policy



Photo by: Noah Kurkjian | News Editor

Students are free to go maskless inside general university builds like the University Center, FLITE and the various eateries, however they are required in the classroom.

As of March 16, masking is optional, except in classrooms, laboratories and patient care areas

Rebecca Vanderkooi
Opinions Editor

Following the trend of many other institutions, Ferris has relaxed some of its COVID-19 mask mandates as of March 16.

An email from Joy Pulsifer, Ferris' Dean of Student Life, outlined the new changes, which include optional masking in indoor spaces except for in classrooms, laboratories and patient care areas.

According to Michelle Rasmussen of the Ferris re-entry committee, this change comes after the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services confirmed Michigan is in the post-surge recovery phase of COVID-19.

"Faculty, staff, students and visitors will also no longer need to complete the University's daily symptom checker before coming to our campuses. If you are feeling ill, you are encouraged to use the new COVID-19 symptom checker on the CDC website," Rasmussen wrote in an email to the Torch.

Dr. Zoe Wendler, the technical and professional communication and journalism and technical communication program coordinator explained that COVID-19 infection rates are the lowest of the pandemic, comparable to that of summer 2021.

Wendler added that she has been extra cautious about COVID-19, due to family members being at an increased risk of catching the virus. Even though things are improving, she will continue masking at all times while on campus.

"We probably should still be masking in hallways, [since] that's actually the main opportunity for transmission because they get more crowded than the classrooms do. If we are masking in classrooms, as remains the policy, it's not very logical to not mask in hallways and common spaces because those are the most crowded," Wendler said.

Philosophy professor John Scott Gray explained that during this month's Academic Senate meeting, every senator who spoke was in favor of keeping the classroom mask mandate, so he believes the university heeded their opinion in their decision-making process.

"I am glad that the change is a gradual one that maintains the mask requirement in class-

rooms. While we might pass through a hall for two or three minutes, our time in the classroom is usually an hour or more, meaning a higher viral load. This seems like a fair compromise," Gray wrote in an email to the Torch.

Gray also noted that he would have waited at least a full week after spring recess to implement the changes on campus.

Craig Maconochie, a junior studying secondary biology education, expressed support for the revised COVID-19 requirements on campus. He explained that because he is vaccinated, he is excited about the prospect of beginning to move toward more normalcy on campus.

While freshman Emily Gilbert is happy about the changes, she doesn't understand the logic behind the decision to mask only in classrooms, laboratories and patient care areas.

"Personally, I think that the school should have either made the mandate completely optional in all buildings and spaces, or kept it the same. People are mingling together in the UC or FLITE without masks and then going to class with the same people, so I feel like it's almost a little pointless to have everyone wear masks only in classrooms," Gilbert said.

Elayna Pagels, a freshman studying architecture, expressed similar thoughts to Gilbert, she noted that if everyone is around each other in common areas without masks on, then it seems to defeat the purpose of wearing one in the classroom.

Since the pandemic began, there have been numerous guidelines in place to keep faculty, students and staff safe. Pagels and others hope that these changes will show progress in the fight against COVID-19 and the return to normalcy.

"The University will continue to monitor local and statewide conditions, in addition to guidance from local, state and federal health authorities relative to COVID-19. If necessary, these new guidelines on mask usage and the symptom checker may be re-evaluated should conditions in our communities change," Rasmussen wrote.

For the latest information regarding COVID-19 guidelines on campus, check out the Coronavirus Updates Hub on the Ferris State website.

NEW MASK MANDATE

Where you can take your mask off



 **Must wear a mask in...**
Classrooms, Laboratories, and Patient Care Facilities.

 **At state-wide locations...**
You should follow the face-covering policies at the host location

 **Masks optional in...**
Indoor spaces such as the University Center, FLITE, IRC, and Timme Center.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

LANSING - Heightened gas prices are shaking the world, and the Michigan government has differing ideas on how to handle it.

Michigan Senate Republicans pushed through a bill that would temporarily suspend the \$.27 gas tax on Tuesday, March 15, voting in favor of it 24-14.

The bill would suspend the tax until Sept. 30, and would cost the state an estimated \$750 million and save the average Michigan driver \$75, according to the nonpartisan Senate Fiscal Agency.

The vote mostly followed party lines, aside from two Democrats that voted to approve the measure. However, the governor has signaled that she intends to veto it.

Typically, when a bill like this is voted on, after it is signed into law by the governor, it goes back to the Legislature and they vote on when the tax goes into effect. The

only problem is that the bill didn't receive enough support to put it into immediate effect.

"Gov. Whitmer is ready to take action to immediately lower costs and put more money back in people's pockets. Unfortunately, the bill that passed the Legislature wouldn't even reduce the price of gas until next year at the earliest," said Whitmer's press secretary Bobby Leddy, referencing the inability to ensure the law took effect immediately.

"Gov. Whitmer is ready to bring together Republicans and Democrats to negotiate a bill that saves Michiganders money."

Gov. Whitmer proposed cutting the sales tax on gas in Michigan temporarily, not noting an end date in her conference Thursday. She said she would be open to discussing this with lawmakers, but House Speaker Jason Wentworth, R-Farwell, suggested it was a bad idea that would die in the Legislature.

GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

The Anonymous hacktivist collective has been bombarding Russia with online attacks as a response to the invasion of Ukraine.

The collective has carried out a wide variety of attacks on the invader, most notably a takeover of a Russian TV network. In the attack, the group showed pictures of various bombings that have taken place in Ukraine, spliced together with clips of soldiers discussing the horrors of the conflict.

This event took place on Feb. 26, with clips circulating via Anonymous' various social accounts.

"JUST IN: #Russian state TV channels have been hacked by #Anonymous to broadcast the truth about what happens in #Ukraine," read a tweet from @YourAnonTV.

The collective justified their attacks, saying innocent Ukrainians were being massacred in the process. "We will intensify the attacks on the Kremlin, if nothing is done to restore peace in Ukraine," they

added.

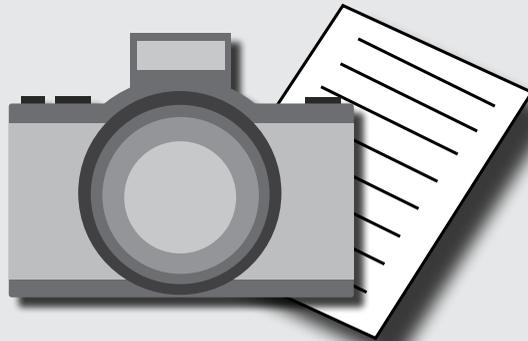
This hasn't been the only hack carried out, either. Several Russian websites have been defaced or just plain taken offline.

Anonymous isn't the only hacktivist group out there, though. Stand for Ukraine, a hacker group lead by Roman, a Ukrainian tech entrepreneur interviewed by BBC, works to build a website, Android apps and Telegram bots to aid Ukraine in their war efforts.

"I am ready to go and pick up a rifle for Ukraine, but at the moment, my skills are better used at the computer. So I'm here in my home with my two laptops, co-ordinating this IT resistance." Roman said to BBC.



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- ON THE RECORD -

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

Noah Kurkjian
News Editor

Handicap haps

Feb. 28, 11:45 p.m. - A bystander observed a parking violation and called it into DPS. Officers arrived and wrote the vehicle a ticket for parking in a handicap space

Card captured

March 1, 9:49 p.m. - Pending fraud investigation, someone stole a credit card from another individual and used the card at multiple stores. Charges have been filed pending arrest.

Court woes

March 1, 10:47 p.m. - Officers came into contact with individual with a warrant for obstructing justice by failing to appear in court. The individual in question was arrested by officers.

Student stalking

March 4, 1:19 a.m. - A female individual accused another individual who lives in her dorm building of stalking her. An investigation took place and charges were submitted but declined by prosecutors.

Sign swiped

- An individual stole a sign valued at less than \$200 from the University Center. No charges were

officially filed as the case had no leads.

Invisible driver, invisible insurance

March 16, 7:43 p.m. - An individual was pulled over for the equipment violation of heavily tinted windows. When officers made contact with the driver, they discovered they had an expired license and no insurance. A ticket was issued to the driver.

That's not the sport you practice here

March 17, 8:36 a.m. - An individual drove through a practice field, turfing it. No charges were filed as there are no leads.

Intoxicated accident in front of North Hall

March 17, 11:48 p.m. - A driver caused an accident in front of North Hall. Once officers arrived on the scene, they noticed the driver was intoxicated. The individual was arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor or drugs.

Loaded at the loading dock

March 20, 12:29 a.m. - An individual was found heavily intoxicated by officers near the loading dock of Williams Auditorium. Due to the level of the student's intoxication, the matter was raised to student conduct.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

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New program for gaming

If approved, the program would bring competitive gaming towards academics

Rebecca Witkowski
Freelance Reporter

Ferris plans to add a unconventional program into their lineup in fall 2022.

The proposed esports production program would be a part of the College of Business. The program would teach students how to manage esports tournaments, coach players and inform them about the technical aspects of esports.

There were some concerns among the academic community that the program was not “academically valid,” according to Ferris professor Varun Singireddy. Singireddy explained that people did not feel that there were academic degrees that could be found in esports.

“When we take ‘playing video games’ out of context and bring in focus areas such as production, streaming, coaching, UI design, communication, event management etc., it is evident that these disciplines have many jobs in the industry,” Singireddy said. “Furthermore, there are academic programs and degrees offered in these disciplines. Looking at the history of esports and esports events, it takes a crew of professionals in the roles mentioned above and more. Therefore, the Esports Production program focuses on training students for jobs surrounding the ‘gamer.’ In the future, we plan to pursue more concentrations through the program as more disciplines become prevalent.”

Current Ferris students are already getting excited about the proposed program. Rachel Wessering, a current Ferris junior in the criminal justice program, currently



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

The esports major was proposed in 2019, it would include 12 new classes ranging from event management to player psychology.

participates in the esports club on campus. She is a supporter of the program and helped the TDMP program make a video spotlight on the proposed program.

“There are so many people that are starting to realize that you can get a good career out of the gaming industry,” Wessering said. “It most definitely will draw in people in. There are so many curious people who would like to know more on how to be a part

of that scenery.”

In 2020, Northwood University launched their esports management program. The University claims that it was the first university in Michigan to offer such a program. Last year, the CEO of Activision Blizzard Robert Kotick gave the University of Michigan \$4 million to use towards developing an esports minor.

The idea for Ferris to have an esports

management program began in 2019, according to Singireddy.

“In fall of 2019, Dr. [Andrew] Peterson, with various other faculty members, took the initiative to create a program proposal,” Singireddy said. “It took us 2.5-3 years from then to now, addressing concerns, revising the proposal and getting it approved by the administrative bodies to finally have a program.”

The proposal has 12 new classes for the program. The classes include intro to esports, event management, psychology of play/players and more. Classes will be offered in the Center for Virtual Learning, which will include an esports arena for hands-on learning.

The esports production program has already received approval from Ferris’ board of trustees. While the program still needs approval from other universities in the state, Singireddy is hopeful the program will receive approval.

“Since our program is unique in its offerings, catering to jobs in the disciplines of production, UI design and event management, we strongly believe that we are going to be approved,” Singireddy said. “If, for any reason, we do not get approval, we will address the concerns and keep pushing. Esports will be a continuously growing and evolving field. We are prepared to adapt to industry needs and whatever direction esports are going to take in the future.”

Scan the code to learn more



Photo by: Cassidy Jessup | Multimedia Editor

Freshman Brendan Mumby is one of the students who may participate in the new esports major. Here, he battles other players in League of Legends, a strategy based video game.

Salaries

Continued from cover

dent, the provost did not receive a bonus of any kind and is not granted a housing allowance.

Fleischman received \$48,379 in retirement, disability and insurance benefits, as well as \$9.52 in reimbursed expenses for “personal car mileage.”

Rumpf served as FFA president before

Bacon, so this is not his first time analyzing the president’s income.

“I’ve been looking at these numbers for a long time, and they’ve been going up a lot faster than faculty salaries, that’s for sure,” Rumpf said.

Rumpf explained that other university expenses tied to Eisler’s presidency included job training early in his tenure at Ferris.

“Also, not in [the report] are some costs associated with having a consultant for

Dave to teach him to be a president. So, it’s not actually going to him, but it’s a cost of having Dave here.”

Because Ferris is a mid-level school, administrators tend to climb the ladder rather than arrive with previous administrative experience.

“We don’t get a lot of people who have experienced being president somewhere else. Usually, it’s going to be a provost from another college, or at the very least a

dean,” Rumpf said.

Eisler served as provost and vice president of academic affairs at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah before joining Ferris in 2003.

“This is their first time at that level, so this is where they make mistakes...for X amount of time. Depending on the person, they’re not really worth what we’re paying them,” Rumpf said.

LIFESTYLES

Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor | russem22@ferris.edu

Campus climate for the LGBTQ+ community



Graphic by: Sienna Parmalee | Production assistant

LGBTQ+ acceptance on college campuses in the era of the “Don’t Say Gay” bill

Charlie Buckel
Freelance Reporter

One of the most prominent topics in today’s news involves Florida’s Parental Rights in Education Bill, also known as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill. This legislation proposal would prohibit the instruction of anything related to gender identity and sexual orientation from kindergarten to the third grade, though opponents say the broad language of the bill could allow prohibition through all grades.

Florida’s bill is just one of many around the United States, with 15 similar bills being presented in other states.

There has been an increase in the number of bills and actions aimed solely at transgender youth and citizens. In fact, a judge in Texas blocked Gov. Ted Abbott’s and Texas’ attorney general from investigating parents who provide gender-affirming care to trans minors.

The prominence of these bills and actions in the media have opened up discussions about LGBTQ+ rights. There is much concern about the long-term effects of these bills on young, LGBTQ+ people’s mental health.

According to the Trevor Project’s 2021 National Survey of LGBTQ+ youth mental health, 8.3% of LGBTQ+ youth between the ages of 19-24 attempted suicide in the past year.

The effect that proposed bills could have on the LGBTQ+ community is concerning to Sarah Doherty, the coordinator of Ferris’ LGBTQ+ Resource Center.

“[The rates of] death by suicide are already significantly higher for queer and trans youth,” Doherty said. “So these are major stressors.”

Since most of the bills like the Parental Rights in Education bill affect youth who are in grade school, the question of the importance of acceptance in other aspects of society is arising.

“It’s both important because there are LGBTQ folks in college because we are everywhere,” Doherty said. “... For a lot of people, when they go to college [is] when they encounter people who are unlike themselves for the first time. [They are able to] learn more about the world and figure out how to live with people and work with people who are different than them.”

Bryce Longenberger is an intern at the LGBTQ+ Resource Center and a graduate student pursuing a master’s of social work. He also spoke about how important acceptance is at institutes of higher education.

“Ferris is still part of a larger educational system, [and] we’re trying to educate the youth, even if they’re upper teens,” Longenberger said. “And I feel like it’s really important for Ferris to intentionally create a space that’s accepting, and I think that’s something that’s not done... You don’t just, you know, stumble upon an accepting space. I feel like you have to be intentional about it.”

So how does Ferris do when it comes to LGBTQ+ acceptance?

“You can kind of see there are pretty well-established best practices around supporting the LGBTQ community and making LGBTQ staff and faculty experiences better, which Ferris is not doing, versus doing some things [that have] come a long way even since I got here,” Doherty said.

Doherty said that there were both people who were making sure that the LGBTQ+ community is welcome and accepted on campus and people who were not.

“And that’s true of every place everywhere because that’s how systemic heterosexism shows up,” Doherty said.

Longenberger shares Doherty’s sentiment that Ferris is getting better.

“I’m fairly new to Ferris. I’ve only been here for about six or seven months since I started my grad program, but, especially working at the center, I feel like [Ferris] is getting better... There’s definitely movement in the right direction, but I think there’s still progress to be made,” Longenberger said.

Renee Elrod is a freshman studying correctional forensic psychology who thinks that Ferris does great with LGBTQ+ acceptance.

“I think, LGBT wise, their acceptance is really good,” Elrod said, “I’ve been to the [LGBTQ+] Resource Center in the University Center. I think it’s a really cool place. So, I think if anyone has questions about the LGBT community, then they should definitely go check that out.”

While the opinion on Ferris’ acceptance of LGBTQ+ people is generally positive, people still think the university could do more.

“I think creating some additional LGBTQ+ student scholarships would be helpful. I know there’s one..., but the resource center funded it,” Longenberger said. “... Ferris could engage [with the Big Rapids community] in general to make it a more inclusive space. I know we’re in a conservative area, so that can be kind of tricky.”

Longenberger also brought up Big Rapids’ first Pride celebration that is happening this summer.

“I don’t know how involved Ferris is with that, so there are some opportunities that Ferris can [take advantage of] to promote being accepting and inclusive... in the larger community that we’re in,” Longenberger said.

Doherty’s biggest concern of how Ferris could do more involves giving more adequate funding to the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. One of the main reasons Doherty is leaving Ferris is due to the fact that the coordinator position is only part-time, which doesn’t offer her an adequate wage.

“Fund the resource center, please and thank you. I’m really good at this job. I’m really good with students. I’m a little bit of a pain in the ass, but I’m really, really good at it. Ferris did not have to lose me, but I can’t pay my rent,” Doherty said.

While Doherty said that much more could be done, she also said that there are people working to make important changes.

“Some of the diversity equity inclusion committees either have already made some changes on campus, or are on the cusp of making some changes on campus that will... directly improve people’s lives,” Doherty said. “The registrar’s office has been fabulous [and the] housing [office] has been fabulous in terms of just... working with people’s needs.”

So, while Ferris seems to be doing ok, seeing how much progress will be made in terms of creating an accepting environment for LGBTQ+ members of the Ferris community is still a concern.

A guide to recycling on campus

Meghan Hartley
Lifestyles Reporter

For almost ten years, Ferris has been offering recycling services to all Bulldogs on campus to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills.

Jeff Warner, the manager of custodial services, says recycling at Ferris began in 2013, when they brought in their first recycle containers on campus; these are the large units found behind most residential and academic buildings.

“They were just trying to start the process because prior to that we didn’t have recycling, and it blossomed out of the move-in and move-out days,” Warner said. “We ended up getting so many recyclable products. Students buy new things, and they obviously bring their stuff in boxes, and, of course, those get discarded. So, [instead of] just casting all that stuff into the waste stream, we wanted to try to capture it in recycling.”

At the time this began, recycling was only done by individual groups and offices intermittently, instead of the university as a whole.

According to Warner, Jerry Scoby, the former Vice President of Administration and Finance, was the driving force behind getting the university to collectively begin recycling.

In 2015, the Sustainability Task Force



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Lifestyles Editor

If students are unsure how to recycle their different trash they can look on the recycle services website.

was created to ensure the whole campus had an equal opportunity to recycle.

One year later, the STF became a standing committee on campus, and it has since become the Environmental

Sustainability Task Force. Its focus is to develop “a set of practical, intentional, efficient and low-cost ways the university can be better stewards of resources and the environment.”

According to their 2016 sustainability draft report, the committee consists of 16 faculty members from all departments, ranging from the marketing de-

Recycling | see page 7

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RECYCLING

Continued from page 7

partment to the provosts' office.

Jennifer Johnson, a professor of geography and the current chair of the social and behavioral sciences department, was encouraged by the committee's efforts and joined the team.

"We spent some time talking about goals for the university," Johnson said. "We did a lot of outreach, [and]we cataloged a lot of what was already happening on campus. What we found is there's actually a lot more happening with sustainability mindedness on campus than we realized. It's just happening at very small levels and in individual offices and programs."

With the establishment of the committee and the realization that there was a larger sustainability mindset developing on campus, the group was able to bring in more recycling bins that were spread throughout campus.

Outside academic and residential buildings, there are large recycling units, which were strategically placed, according to Warner. Each hall, room and building has its own smaller, blue recycling bin located inside.

Within these bins there are plastic bags that collect the recyclables, however, Warner assures students that even the bag can be recycled.

"That particular form of plastic that we use is a first-used style plastic," Warner said. "A lot of plastic bags that you'll see are already recycled material, therefore, they can't be recycled again. The bags that we're using are basically virgin plastics, so they can be recycled."

Warner gave the example of Walmart and Meijer plastic bags to compare, stating the store bags

were made of recycled materials that can't be accepted on campus.

Johnson says the custodial services and Warner have worked hard to make sure students and staff have access to these recycling bins, no matter where they are on campus.

"They have just been amazing at the transition and taking on that little bit of extra work of taking both trash and recycling," Johnson said. "We just really want to give them praise and thanks. They are the magic that makes it happen."

While recycling on campus may seem spread out and at times hard to find, the committee and custodial staff are here to help make recycling easier for everyone to be more green.

"Jeff has always been extremely willing to help us add additional bins if we know of places that need them," Johnson said. "Students can always communicate with me, as a representative of the ESTF, or they can ask Jeff if there are things that we can do to make it clever or easier."

Students can learn what can and cannot be recycled on campus by the labels on the sides of the blue bins, and they can find where their nearest recycling bin is by going to the campus recycle map.

For more information or answers to questions, students can head to the recycle services website or contact custodial services.

INTERESTED IN PODCASTING?



**CONTACT BRANDON WIRTH:
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EDITOR'S COLUMN: More than a game

By *Brendan Sanders*

Throughout the years, I've noticed that some people don't seem to understand the impact sports can have on people's lives.

Many people see sports as just a bunch of men and women playing a dumb game, somehow drawing millions of viewers and earning millions of dollars. On paper, it seems to be a waste of time, money and resources.

For my family, sports are a way we bond with one another, especially between the Sanders men. I bond with my dad by talking sports whenever I can, whether it is at 11 p.m. on a Tuesday, or when we watch games together on Saturday nights. I've bonded with my grandpa over the years by talking sports with him whenever I saw him.

There is one team that Sanders men have been watching for three generations: the Pittsburgh Steelers. It not only has been a link to bonding between my dad and I, but my grandpa was one of the loudest, most boisterous Steelers fans in Northwest Ohio. Our status as Steelers fans gave us something to talk about for hours at a time, whether it was over the phone or when I visited.

Personally, the team has been a great distraction in my life. The Steelers have taken my mind off of work for hours and have kept me sane over the course of the

last decade, though the games themselves have taken years off my life with a different kind of stress.

My sports relationship with my grandpa started out with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Every time we spoke, we debated about how the team was doing. Then, last fall, we started texting each other about sports betting. It had become legal here in Michigan, and my grandpa had potentially been doing it for decades down in Ohio. We talked every gameday about who we were picking to bet on that weekend.

I was terrible at it, and grandpa was sure to let me know how bad I was doing. Eventually, I told him to just to start taking the opposite of what I was picking. During the last week of the regular season, I called him bragging about how I had bought the Steelers into the playoffs by putting \$40 on the Colts beating the Jaguars. The Colts ended up losing, giving the Steelers one last playoff berth.

It earned a hearty laugh from him when I told him that my plan had worked.

I also talked about the start of March Madness with him during spring break, and we debated for half an hour about who we liked for the tourney. He had told me when I visited that he liked Kentucky. When Kentucky blew it against St. Peters in the

first round, I texted him Friday morning to see who his next pick was. I never got a response.

Our last voice-to-voice conversation was Thursday evening.

It seemed very fitting that the last conversation that I had with my grandpa before he passed away was not about anything other than the Pittsburgh Steelers. My dad was with him down in Ohio, and he sat in the hospital room with the phone on speaker as we talked about how the Steelers had signed the best linebacker available, Myles Jack, alongside two offensive linemen that are expected to start for us.

I told him how it looks like our defense is ready to kick some butt for next year, though I have my suspicion that he just did not want to see Mitch Trubisky leading us at quarterback next season. I would not have had our last conversation any other way.

This past weekend, through some of the hardest days for my family, the games gave us brief moments of positivity when we were all battling back tears. I could imagine my grandpa's gravelly, raspy voice yelling at the television as some of the best upsets happened, and it was comforting.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Photo by: | Marissa Russell

Jessica Oakes

Joining the Torch in my freshman year with no journalism experience beyond JRNL-121 was the scariest and best decision I've made at Ferris. Though I changed my majors to technical communication and social justice soon after, I still feel like a journalist at heart. Now, as I conclude my sophomore year, I work as a news reporter, copy editor and the special editions editor.

The support I feel here with my fellow reporters and editors may be the best part of the job. Spending quality time working and laughing with people who think like me is truly invaluable.

My goal as a writer is to tell important stories that do not get enough light shone on them. Interviewing people from all corners of campus provides me with the most interesting conversations, and I love the professional relationships I get to develop with my sources.

Before my time here, I grew up in the small town of Roscommon, Michigan. After I wrap up my degrees, however long that may take, I hope to continue my storytelling from sunny Tampa, Florida.

GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.
Rebecca VanderKooi | Opinions Editor | Email: vandr122@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!

Run, hide, return fire

A discussion on campus carry

Bradley Moore
Torch Photographer

You had just sat down when the sound of mass panic and gunshots filled the lecture hall that hosted your first class of the day. During the time that it takes police officers to arrive, you witness many of your classmates fall victim to another mass shooting in a supposedly gun-free zone.

Now, imagine this same scenario, except one of your classmates is carrying a weapon and has the training to use it immediately and effectively. With immediate action, the people that would have died waiting for a police response might still be alive and well. However, because of a university policy that forbids anyone with a concealed pistol license from having their weapons on campus, law-abiding students and faculty are left unable to defend themselves in a life-threatening confrontation.

“If you look at history and where a lot of these mass shootings have happened over the last ten years, a lot of them have been in these gun-free zones,” Jacob Schrot, a Ferris employee with nearly ten years of experience as a firearms instructor, said. “A lot of those scenarios could have been stopped, or at least slowed down, by someone with a carry permit.”

In the state of Michigan, carrying a weapon on a university campus is illegal, but each school is given the final say in what they want their weapons policy to be. They are given the right to create policies that go along with or against state law.

“There are rights that certain entities, such as a university, can take to protect their community... [Ferris] feels it is a safer route to ban weapons from the community,” DPS director John Allen said. “I believe in the right for everybody to bear arms, but within reason and within rules.” Rather than give people the right to defend themselves on campus, the university’s goal is

to ensure everyone that DPS will protect them should a dangerous situation arise.

“Our average response time is probably two to three minutes in any location,” Allen said. “We’re trained for it, and we’re up to the task of mobilizing there and knocking out the threat if that’s what we have to do.”

However, even if DPS can immediately detect a campus shooting, a lot can happen in two to three minutes. In 2019 for instance, a gunman in Dayton, Ohio was able to kill nine people and wound 14 others in less than 30 seconds.

“We only have so many officers on campus, and they can’t be everywhere at once, so it’s immediate reaction time versus four or five minutes that it takes for officers to get on the scene,” Schrot said.

Despite their weapons policy, the university still encourages self-defense in an active shooter scenario. According to DPS, to survive an attack, your best choices are to run, hide or fight.

“Our stance is you grab anything you can to defend yourself,” Allen said. “Our stance is if there is something going on here on campus, you run, you fight or you hide. That’s the premise that we operate on here.”

Even U.S. military personnel are taught not to engage in a fight that they have no chance of winning. As a law-abiding citizen in a gun-free zone, facing off against an attacker with a firearm is almost certain death.

According to the DPS website, attackers often seek the softest targets possible, and they plan to cause maximum damage in a short amount of time. Allowing students with a CPL to carry their weapons in classrooms and dormitories would create a safer environment by ensuring that they aren’t soft targets.

This doesn’t just apply to situations involving an active shooter. Giving students the ability to defend themselves can go a long way towards curbing other violent crimes, such as armed robbery and sexual assault. According to a report cited by the CDC, firearms are used defensively between 60,000 to 2.5 million times per year.

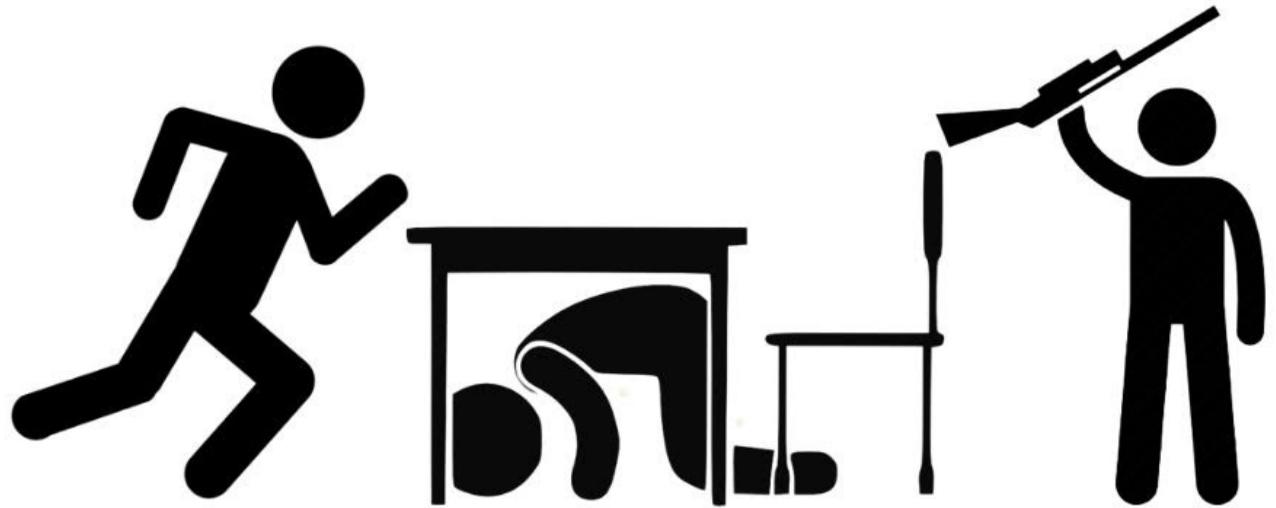
“Everyone that gets their CPL feels a greater sense of safety,” Schrot said. “It also doesn’t narrow this down to carrying a firearm. It can also cover a taser that has a projectile or pepper spray that reaches out to 20 or 30 feet.”

For students walking alone at night, that sense of safety can make a world of difference. They wouldn’t have to rely on being near a blue light call box or calling DPS for an escort to feel safe.

Some people are understandably concerned about CPL holders having enough training and knowledge to be trusted with a weapon. After all, not everyone who takes a CPL class is a weapons expert. In response to these concerns, I would like to propose that the university use its pistol range to give classes to people with a CPL who wish to carry on campus.

These proposed classes should ideally give in-depth instruction in threat response, use of deadly force, fundamental weapon safety and weapon familiarization. Making these classes a prerequisite to carrying on campus would ensure that people are more qualified and less likely to use their weapons irresponsibly.

All it takes is a discussion about implementing responsible firearm policies for Ferris to become a leading champion in gun rights and campus safety.



Graphic by: | Rebecca VanderKooi

The internship issue

Unpaid internships are unethical and wrong

Jeremy Wolfe
Freelance Reporter

Unpaid Internships. A lot of people have either done one, or are currently in the process of completing one. They’re likely going to stick around for a while. The question is, why?

Supposedly, unpaid internships are an opportunity to get your foot in the door. They are a way to show your commitment to a field by taking no pay because you’re getting the currency of “experience” to compensate you for actually contributing to a company. The said work is necessary to keep said company running, and you are expected to adhere to professional standards, show up on time and do the work.

Now, many people say, “What’s the issue with unpaid internships? You get experience, and it’s an entry level job that you can use on your resume.” And while it is true that these internships do help people get their foot in the door after the fact, usually at a different company, the issue comes down to ethics and whether you believe somebody working the equivalent of an actual job is worth being paid little to zero.

According to a 2012 student survey, nearly half of graduating seniors have taken on an unpaid internship. Given that the average age of people in internships is in the late teens to early twenties, which is an age group notorious for having little disposable income while dealing with college and other priorities, no pay for the hours spent is huge, and many would prefer to work a “lesser” job that actually compensates them properly.

However, the issue here is that you’re trading the ability to actually find an entry level job in a field you’re interested in, and instead settling for a lower amount of money, usually without a hope of improving your financial situation in the first place.

The other issue with unpaid internships is how they can disproportionately affect people of color and those of lesser financial status. As it stands, the relationship between being a minority in America and having less income is almost causal, and this is also reflected in how internships are handled, too.

In 2016, a report released by Bridge stated that that these less represented groups are also less represented in internships, period, with over half of them being unpaid, as well. While it may not be “intentionally” racist, it certainly

undercuts these groups in a significant and impactful way, and this should not be something that still happens in 2022.

Unpaid internships have a long standing history of being protected because private companies are allowed to dictate the rules of their own companies. When you have to work for free for a period of time in order to secure a job that pays a livable wage, it starts looking like little more than indentured servitude, albeit a blunted form of it.

While it’s clearly not as serious as the indentured servitude that was seen in the 1800’s, the fact that people are essentially forced to work for little to nothing in order to have a chance at a job, while also struggling financially with college and other burdens, doesn’t do much to inspire confidence that things will change, or that people will be able to get to the places they want to be in their careers. It reeks of keeping those with a low income where they’re at, and it does so in a discriminatory way that removes both diversity of race and income from the work field.

SPORTS

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

Shortage in stripes

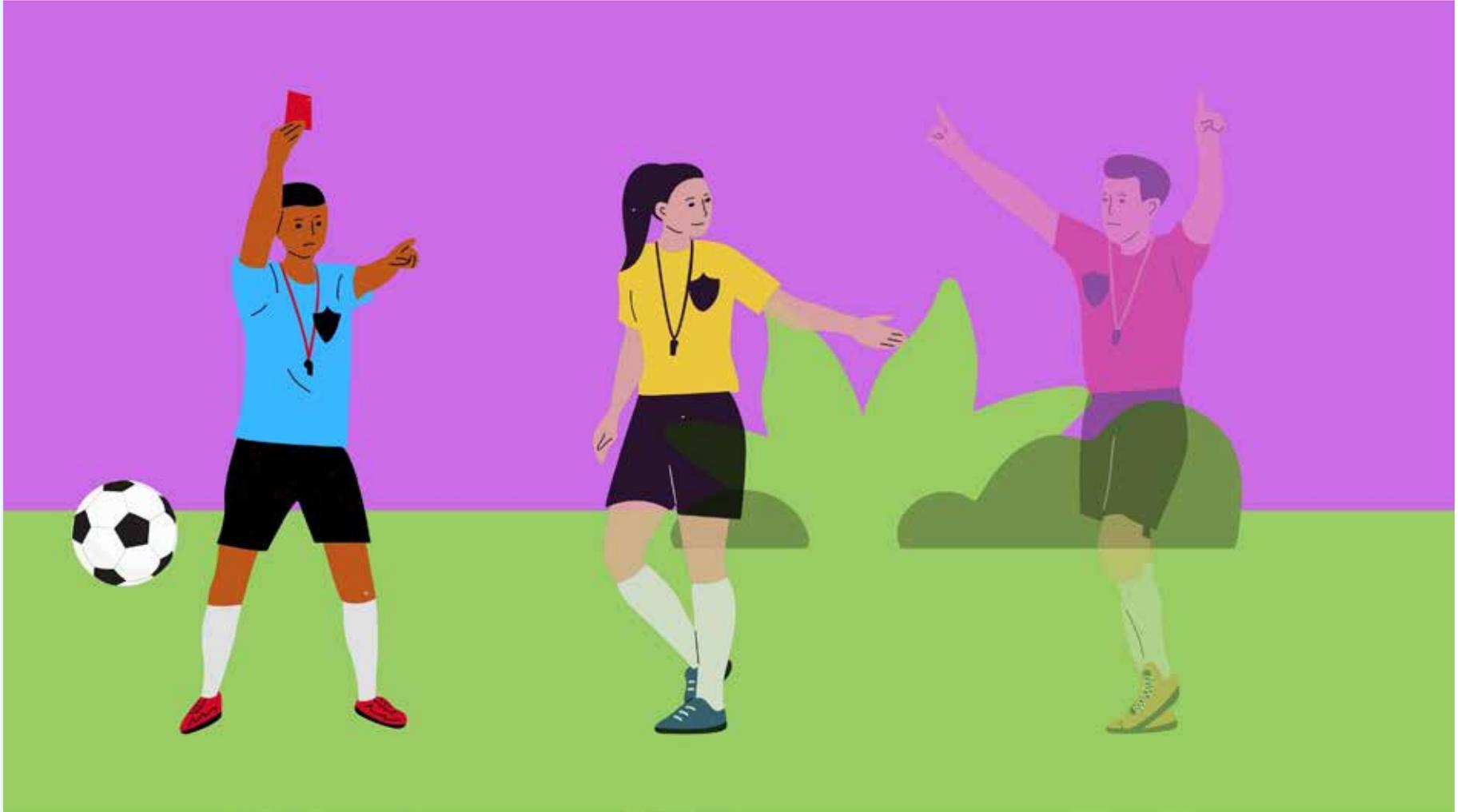


Photo by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Assistant

How a drop in officiating numbers is impacting local sports

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

There is no question that COVID-19 has affected sports in a drastic way. Since 2020, the pandemic has caused the cancellation of many local sporting events at all levels. While COVID-19 cases have trended downward over the past two months, a new development could lead to cancellations of games in the future.

According to various local officials, the overall number of available referees has been sparse compared to the last few years. This shortage has caused many games across all sports to be moved or re-scheduled. For local Michigan High School Athletic Association official Kevin Courtney, this deficiency has created some tough situations with scheduling.

“There is no room in schedules for any kind of variation,” Courtney said. “There’s been games that have been cancelled because there’s no officials. I’ve even had to do a couple of games by myself.”

Not only have low numbers created fewer officials for games, they have also forced available referees to travel long distances.

“Tonight I’m going to drive 70 miles to a game,” Courtney said. “I’ll be gone for five and a half hours for two games and make around 130 bucks. People look at that and wonder if it’s worth it.”

While losing referees is not uncommon in the state of Michigan, this past year has been an exception. Brent Rice, the Assistant Director of the MHSAA, told WXYZ Detroit they have lost 14% of their officials in 2021. This is almost 10% higher than the estimated annual decline, which hovers between 3%-5%.

So, what is causing this major shortage? According to seasoned intramural official

Taylor Bennett, the lingering effects of COVID-19 have made an impact.

“I think COVID-19 has definitely taken some refs off the court,” Bennett said. “Especially being around younger kids and being able to carry [the virus] asymptotically.”

While this was the most proximate reason at the time, Bennett believes criticism from crowd members has played a major role as well.

“The crowd does play a big role in how [referees] have been treated over the last couple of years. I believe it’s gotten worse as I’ve gotten older,” Bennet said.

Officiating abuse is as real as it gets. Passionate fans, parents and coaches often harass officials for any questionable calls that could affect their team. In response, some states have even taken steps towards fully protecting officials. Back in 2019, the state of Wisconsin proposed a bill that would charge forfeiture if an individual “harasses, intimidates or engages in a course of conduct with no legitimate purpose.”

Many new officials, however, have not experienced incidents involving fan heckling. Brendan Harwood, a Ferris student who began officiating back in the spring of 2021, has only experienced semi-serious backlash from one major group: intramural sports.

“College guys are very outspoken,” Harwood said. “They are rowdy and will deal with controversy.”

Harwood also mentioned some early backlash that came from passionate coaches and parents, mainly within American Athletic Union games. Despite the “rowdiness,” Harwood doesn’t let the noise get to him. His goal is to provide a fair game for each team on the court.

“The number one thing is being con-

fidant in yourself. I’m not going to make calls because of what a player says to me. I’ll keep my eye out if a player asks me to monitor something, but I will keep being fair and stern.”

As an experienced official from all levels and sports, Courtney has had many moments dealing with the backlash. When asked about a common theme between the incidents, Courtney explained that it comes down to fairness.

“The famous thing you hear all the time is ‘calling it both ways,’” Courtney said. “I don’t keep track of how many fouls I call. I simply call the fouls I see. Sometimes one team is playing a very aggressive man-to-man [defense], and the other team is playing zone [defense], so that’s going to create different situations.”

The shortage of officials seems to have brought an epiphany to teams over the past year. According to Courtney, many coaches have realized that “constant abuse pushes officials away.” This has created an emphasis around high school sports showing more sportsmanship in hopes of gaining officials and continuing play. In turn, many current referees are very optimistic for a bounce back in numbers in the future.

“I see it increasing dramatically,” student official Gary Maudie said in regards to the future number of referees. “With the relief funds going away, people are going to have to work and find jobs. I see everything picking up in the next two years, so officiating is going to get a boost.”

As a leader of officiating training with Ferris intramural sports, Maudie believes there are a lot of people who have the ability to become referees. What do potential candidates need? To Maudie, there are two simple traits.

“What I’m looking for in officials is hav-

ing the willingness to learn and a sports background in what they want to officiate. If you have a good sports background in what you want to officiate, you should be pretty good.”

When it comes to getting started, the process can seem hard to grasp. Many fellow officials, like Harwood, understand the perceived challenges with getting started.

“It’s scary at first, but it’s worth it,” Harwood said. “You have to become experienced to start making more opportunities to officiate more. It’s really fun, especially if you are into sports.”

At the moment, the opportunities within refereeing are endless. There are a lot of organizations that are constantly looking for officials across all sports and age levels, including middle school, high school and college intramurals.

With this availability also comes flexibility, as many organizations allow referees to pick the dates and locations to work. This was one of the biggest reasons Courtney began officiating back in college.

“I would emphasize that it’s a great thing for a college student,” Courtney said. “You can start out on lower levels, you get to pick when and where you want to work and it’s pretty good pay too.”

While every official has a different reason for starting out, many share the same reason for enjoying the occupation: helping kids learn the game.

“One of my favorite parts is having a teaching moment with some of the kids at a young age,” Harwood said. “They’re finding a passion in a sport they’re trying for the first time.”

For more information on becoming an official, contact Ferris Intramural Sports at resports@ferris.edu, or visit the MHSAA website at www.mhsaa.com/officials.

Men's tennis beats Grand Valley

Bulldogs return home to beat Lakers in opening GLIAC play

Joe Nagy
Sports Reporter

Men's tennis returned home from Florida to open GLIAC play with a near clean sweep against their league rivals, the Grand Valley State Lakers.

The Bulldogs (9-2, 1-0 GLIAC) looked to build upon their success from last year when they faced the Lakers to open GLIAC play in 2021-22. The only way to do it was to keep up their patented high energy pace of play from start to finish.

The competition started with three doubles matches, all of which resulted in convincing wins. Ferris also dominated in the singles portion, winning the top five matches.

"Yesterday was the culmination of lots of hard work and preparation leading up to our big rivalry matchup," head coach Mark Doren said. "The guys played outstanding starting with one of the most high energy doubles I've seen in my four years at Ferris."

The first pairing of doubles was Mathis Guerre and Jan Koupil. The duo had an answer for everything that their opponents threw at them. They started the sweep with a 6-3 victory.

On court two, Benjamin Lortie and Alessandro Santangelo sank their Laker pairing 6-2. They rallied early and put pressure on the Lakers.

Josh McDermott and Ayush Deswal's serving gave them an edge to close out their match 6-3, which propelled the Bulldogs to the driver's seat in the singles competition.

"I think doubles was really important, starting off the right way, because then we just needed three out of six singles," Guerre said.

Despite the scorelines in doubles, the Lakers proved tougher when it went to singles play. However, they just could not match the energy and attitudes that Ferris brought to the table.

Guerre went toe-to-toe with Grand Valley's Josep Canyadell, going deep into all three sets. After losing the first 6-7, Guerre claimed victory after a pair of 7-6 wins.

"Keep fighting, stay in it and stay confident all the way through to six singles," Guerre said about keeping the energy up for the team.

Koupil kept the same mantra, as he fell short in the first set 3-6. He changed the pace in the sec-

ond and third sets, winning convincingly 6-4 and 6-3.

Yannic Alexander Mader and Lortie shared identical outcomes to their matches. Both eased into the first sets with 6-4 wins, then closed the door 6-2.

McDermott played with intensity, but lost the first two sets 2-6 and 5-7. His loss was the only one of the Bulldogs' shortcomings, but the loss didn't stop him from supporting his teammates to finish the matches and get the win.

The win over the talented Laker squad gave the Bulldogs a much-needed boost after a 2-2 record in Orlando, Florida over spring break. Especially with opening conference play as the defending champions, the Bulldogs have a target on their back that is bigger than ever.

"It was great to get a win against a rival to start the season, but after last year's undefeated season, we know every team is coming for us, and we just need to focus on each week's matchup," Doren said.

The team will continue their three game home stand this weekend on Friday, March 25 at 5 p.m., when they host the Michigan Tech Huskies.

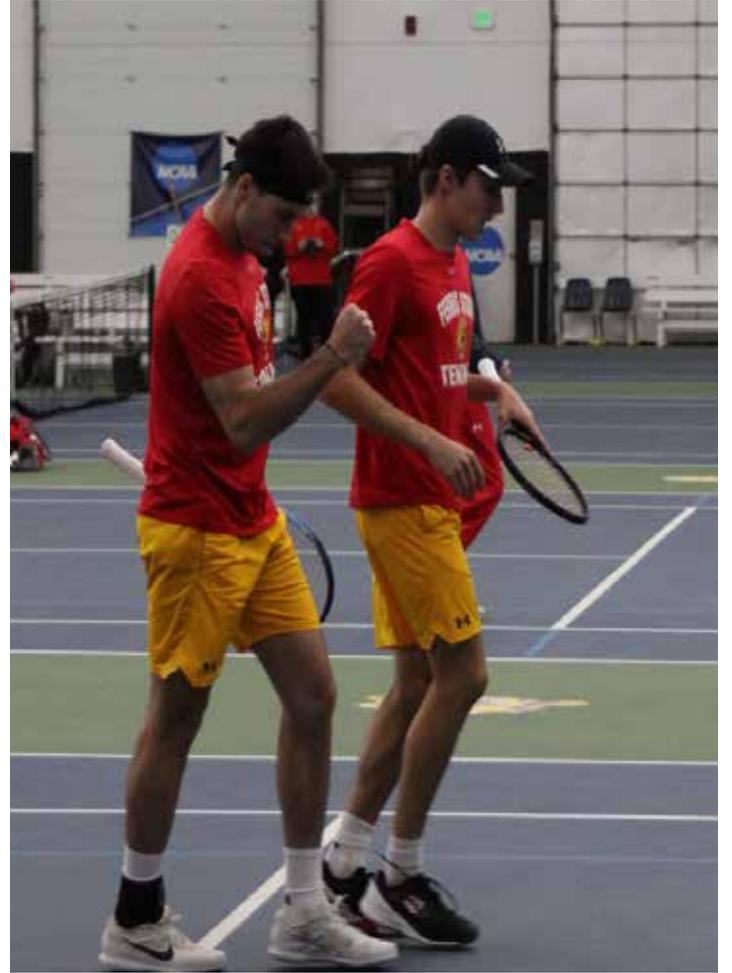


Photo by Mariana Searl | Torch Photographer

Mathis Guerre (left) and Jan Koupil (right) celebrate their double's victory.

Tough loss for women's tennis

Jeffery Walker
Sports Reporter

After Ferris returned home from Orlando, Florida, they lost to Grand Valley to open GLIAC play.

With the loss on Saturday, March 19 against Grand Valley, the Bulldogs are now 5-5 on the season and 0-1 in GLIAC play.

Ferris was coming off a win against Winona State during their trip to Orlando, but were unable to use that momentum to extend their win streak against Grand Valley.

"Always a tough loss when we lose to a rival," head coach Mark Doren said. "But we also know we were right there in many matches and with a little more focus, we can win these types of matches."

The Bulldogs fought hard and took multiple matches down to the wire.

Ferris had two wins in singles competition from Brittany Lav-

enant and Parker Nolan.

The Bulldogs had one win in doubles competition from Parker Nolan and Agata Klak in an impressive 6-0 victory.

"We know we need to be a little more aggressive in our double matches and more consistent in our singles matches," Doren said. "We did see some players gain confidence throughout the matches, and [we] are excited to build on that."

Moving forward, the Bulldogs hope to string together some wins and gain momentum now that they are in GLIAC play, and having players gain confidence is going to be crucial.

"This week our number one focus is to get healthy," Doren said. "We have quite a few players dealing with some nagging injuries."

As the Bulldogs conclude the month of March, they will look to get some wins to gain momentum before the final push in the month

of April leading into the GLIAC tournament.

Being at home for two games this weekend will give the Bulldogs an advantage to get two quality wins before their road trip.

"These next two weeks are ex-

tremely important to gain some momentum," Doren said. "Especially with our next two matches here at home before we go on a five-match road trip. But I think if we stay focused and get good practice, we can get hot."

The Bulldogs will be back in action this weekend against Michigan Tech on Friday at 1 p.m. and Lake Superior State and 10 a.m. on Saturday in the Ferris State Racquet & Fitness Center.



Photo by Angie Rosenthal | Torch Photographer

Agata Klak serves against Grand Valley.

Ferris State University Scholarship Opportunity for Students

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship

Applicant must be the child, sibling, grandchild, son or daughter of a Ferris alumna(us), have a 2.75 GPA and successfully completed a minimum of 24 earned credit hours at Ferris State University.

Please note the following: Students seeking an associate degree must have completed 24 credit hours at the end of spring semester and students seeking a bachelor's degree must have completed 56 credit hours at the end of spring semester. In addition, students must submit an application including an essay describing their personal career goals and role an FSU degree will play in achieving those goals, a letter from the FSU alumna(us) describing the effect their FSU career had on their professional career, and a recommendation by an FSU staff or faculty member.

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

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Application deadline: May 13, 2022

*All submissions must be made on line using MyScholarships.
Visit <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/admission/financialaid/scholarship/Incoming/myscholarships.htm> for more information.

Bulldog hockey season comes to an end

Dylan Rider
Sports Reporter

The 2021-22 hockey season may have ended the same way the 2020-21 season did, but there was vast overall improvement.

For the second year in a row, Ferris lost in the first round of the conference playoffs. Last year, Ferris finished the season 1-23-1 and lost to Minnesota State in the conference playoffs.

This season, the Bulldogs improved their record to 11-24-1 and had back-to-back overtime losses against nationally ranked Michigan Tech in the CCHA playoffs on March 4 and 5.

"It's [kind of] mixed emotions for me," head coach Bob Daniels said. "On the one hand, [we're] obviously disappointed that we didn't win the series. On the other end of things, I was really proud of the guys with how they played and how they performed. I really thought that, particularly in the second half of the year, the team got better."

Daniels' pride wasn't isolated to the two playoff games though. He is satisfied with how his team played throughout the entire year and how they kept pushing through. Daniels also believes the improvement in comparison to the 2020-21 season to be "laying the foundation."

The Bulldogs went 9-16-1 in conference play. This is a vast improvement from last year's 0-11-1 conference record.

Now that the offseason is here, the coaches and players have their sights set on next October.

"The offseason is where it really shines," freshman goaltender Noah Giesbrecht said. "You come into camp, and you can tell which players took it seriously and who didn't. Offseason is something I take very seriously. Giving it 100% effort, always being diligent, being careful with your body. It's just pushing through the offseason when some players aren't and you'll get the results you want when the season starts."

Giesbrecht joined the Bulldogs late into the season after transferring from the University of Windsor. Giesbrecht solidified Ferris' goaltending as he and sophomore

goaltender Logan Stein split most starts this past season.

Giesbrecht is a bright spot on the young team, finishing his season with a .894 save percentage through 11 games played. However, Giesbrecht isn't the only bright spot.

Freshman forward Bradley Marek, who was just named CCHA Rookie of the Year, and secured a position on CCHA's All Rookie team, came in third place for goals and tied second for points for the Bulldogs.

"You always hear about sophomore slumps, but I'm definitely dedicated to progressing my game and not worrying about that sophomore slump," Marek said. "I know what I can do and bring to the table. I proved that this year, now I just have to go back and do it again and build off that. I believe in us and I believe in our team. I have no doubt playing my role. I know what I'm capable of. I'm happy with what we have going and what's coming in the future."

Avoiding a sophomore slump would greatly help the blossoming Bulldog squad.

With every offseason, there are additions and subtractions. There were six seniors on the team this season. Three seniors have the opportunity to sign elsewhere and move forward with their careers, or they can return to Ferris for a fifth year. Seniors Liam MacDougall and Ethan Stewart have signed with ECHL teams. MacDougall is with the Cincinnati Cyclones and Stewart is with the Tulsa Oilers. Senior forward Marshall Moise has no eligibility left.

Fellow seniors Roni Salmenkangas, Justin Michaelian and Brendon Michaelian still have a decision to make.

The transfer portal is also a source of concern during the offseason.

"The only thing that's going to keep me up at night is the transfer portal. The one time transfers and what that could mean," Daniels said. "We're [still] early. It's hard to see. In some respects, we might be able to pluck a player. In other respects, we could lose a player too. It'll be interesting to see how that whole thing unfolds."

The Bulldogs' offseason is well under way. With players training in the weight room and coaches putting in work for additions, there's much to come for Bulldog hockey.

Final Stats of the Season

Leaders:

Led team in goals, assists and points: Senior forward Justin Michaelian (8 G, 23 A, 31P in 35 GP)

Led team in penalty minutes: Senior forward Marshall Moise (25 penalties, 50:00 minutes)

Led team in +/- : Freshman forward Kaleb Ergang (+/- of 2)

Faceoffs:

Total faceoff percentage: 50.3% (1,111 faceoffs won out of 2,208 total)

Special teams:

Powerplay: 13.2% (16 powerplay goals on 121 powerplays)

Penalty kill: 74.8% (116 kills on 155 penalty kills)

Goaltending:

Logan Stein:
26 games played (23 games started), 0.885 save percentage (79 goals allowed, 608 saves made), 3.60 Goals Allowed on Average

Noah Giesbrecht:
11 games played (8 games started), 0.894 save percentage (32 goals allowed, 269 saves made), 3.21 Goals Allowed on Average

Roni Salmenkangas:
8 games played (3 games started), 0.840 save percentage (17 goals allowed, 89 saves made), 4.45 Goals Allowed on Average

Carter McPhail:
6 games played (0 games started), 0.920 save

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