



# The Ferris State Torch

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Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of Oct. 5 – Oct. 11, 2022

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## CVL to aide in teaching hands-on programs

### Update on the Center for Virtual Learning



Photo by: Torch Archives



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Multimedia Editor

The Center for Virtual Learning is set to complete construction in spring 2023. The photo on the left ran in the March 2 Edition of the Torch, and the photo on the right was taken in October.

**Meghan Hartley**  
News Reporter

The Center for Virtual Learning, the newest addition to Ferris' campus, is set to be completed by the spring of 2023.

Programs such as television and digital media, information security and intelligence, digital animation and game design, media supply and esports will be moving into this building, which will offer new learning spaces and opportunities for students.

Andrew Tingley, assistant professor of television and digital media production and Ferris alumnus, is excited to be moving into this new building.

"We're really excited about the CVL because it's going to give us [a] purpose-built space for all the programs going into it," Tingley said. "Esports is going to be on the bottom level. They're going to have this huge arena, and it's very much related to TDMP because they are producing the production around the video games they will be playing."

When esports hosts competitions, students in the TDMP program will have the opportunity to use their broadcasting skills in a new way by recording these matches. Tingley also mentioned that a media supply center will be located on the bottom floor of the CVL for students to rent out equipment.

Bill Jung, a television engineer, is in charge of bringing the media supply equipment over to the CVL. He says that having a space with a fresh new look and function will help the business overall.

While the new building will house classrooms, production spaces and offices for staff, the TDMP recording studio will remain in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center.

"Though the studio still remains behind [in the IRC]... the nexus of all of the staff and faculty will be in the same building," Jung said. "We're really looking forward to... being all together on the same team."

The CVL will allow for an easier split of university resources between the recording studio and the classroom.

"On the third floor, we're going to have all the teaching spaces for the school of digital media," Tingley said. "There'll be two classrooms dedicated to TDMP, and there will be two dedicated to DAGD, as [well] as a really cool green screen room for audio recording studios. There will be a virtual reality or augmented reality room and then five avid editing suites that are dedicated to the senior classes...".

While the first and third floors will be utilized by TDMP, DAGD and media supply, the second floor will be for the information security and intelligence program.

Jason Hawkins is a professor in the information security and intelligence program, whose courses are focused on digital forensics, legal and ethical courses and fraud courses. Hawkins says the ISI program has been around for a long time, as Ferris was one of the first universities to have such a program.

He says having this new building will help bring more attention to the program.

"We will have probably one of the only—if not the only—two-room Faraday room in

the Midwest. I know it'll probably be the only one in Michigan," Hawkins said. "A Faraday room is where you go into this room and it shuts all signal down to any electronic device you have. So if you think you're going in there, you won't be able to get out of that room with your cellular signal, your Wi-Fi signal [or] your Bluetooth signal. Nothing gets out of that room... So that room is going to become very important as we move forward with the new lockdowns and new security that Apple and Google like to implement on their devices."

Hawkins says it will be a room for students to do their own forensic extractions and lab work, which will help them to understand the importance of testing and validation. Students will be getting a feel for what real work experience will be like from the activities they do in this room.

For more information on the CVL's new features, students can head to [ferris.edu/cvl](http://ferris.edu/cvl).

## Clarifying Gov. Whitmer's expansion of birth control access

### The governor and LARA announce that pharmacists may prescribe birth control

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

On Sept. 19, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer released a statement publicizing pharmacists' ability to prescribe self-administered, hormonal birth control.

While this is not new, Whitmer aims to expand access to birth control in the state of Michigan by clarifying and emphasizing the option. This action comes from a reinterpretation of the Public Health Code

by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

LARA summarizes the statement to say that "a physician licensed in the state of Michigan may delegate limited prescriptive authority to a Michigan-licensed pharmacist to prescribe self-administered, hormonal contraceptives."

"Basically, the provider delegates their authority to the pharmacist," associate professor of pharmacy practice Michelle Sahr said. "So, this is not commonly

[used] in Michigan for pharmacists to prescribe birth control, but we've never had any laws stopping us from doing it."

Pharmacies, including CVS, have been providing this service for years, Sahr explained. She and other pharmacists were confused by the relevance and wording of the initial announcement, which was soon revised.

"[Pharmacists] had some concerns because the interpretation at first actually limited us more than what we normally

do," Sahr said. "So, when they came out with the proclamation or the announcement, it said PharmDs could receive this authority from a physician, which actually restricted what we've been able to do for years."

Brian Sapita, the director of government affairs for the Michigan Pharmacists Association, explains that the MPA presented their concerns with the initial statement to

**BIRTH CONTROL** | See next page

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# News

Jessica Oakes | News Editor | oakesj3@ferris.edu

## BIRTH CONTROL

Continued from previous page

LARA. Last Friday, LARA released a revised statement saying that any licensed pharmacist with a bachelors or a doctorate degree can receive prescribing rights.

Whitmer released the statement on the state of Michigan's website following an executive directive from May. This instructed Michigan departments and agencies to identify opportunities to protect reproductive health care in preparation for the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

With the 2022 midterm elections only five weeks away, and since both the governor and statewide constitutional reproductive rights are on the ballot, Whitmer, a democrat elected in 2018, has heavily promoted her stance on birth control

access and abortion rights.

"As reproductive freedom is under attack across the nation, we are using every tool in our toolbox here in Michigan to protect women," the executive directive reads. "We are taking action to guarantee that Michigan women have the right to easily make reproductive health care decisions that are best for them."

Sahr supports the initiative to expand access to birth control and other prescriptions through pharmacists. There are new pieces of state legislation being introduced that could expedite and make the process easier.

Rep. Abraham Aiyash introduced HB 5654. This bill, currently in the House insurance committee, would require insurers to cover hormonal contraceptives pre-

scribed by a pharmacist. Rep. Kara Hope introduced HB 5655, a bill in the House health policy committee that would allow pharmacists to consult and prescribe contraceptives independently.

Both bills were introduced in 2021 and have not been passed by the Michigan House of Representatives.

"A lot of times the holdup is, you know, physicians don't necessarily want to give up patients [and] appointments," Sahr said. "So, sometimes [physicians] see this more of stepping on toes."

In Big Rapids, many residents do not have a primary care doctor. Passing this legislation would offer people an easier route to obtaining prescriptions with more documentation than in telemedicine.

The cost of visiting a physician's office

can be a barrier to health care. Sapita explained that receiving prescriptions from a pharmacy would reduce costs by 60%.

"Pharmacists are not trying to replace a physician, and we believe a patient should see their primary care physician at least once a year," Sapita said. "We are just trying to ensure our patients have access to safe and affordable healthcare."

Sapita is confident in pharmacists' capacity to prescribe oral contraceptives. Pharmacy students are trained to identify preexisting conditions that would complicate the use of hormonal birth control, and additional training is offered throughout the field. This ensures that pharmacists are kept up to date on the prescription of contraceptives.

# "The Goonies" and "Stranger Things" star comes to Ferris

## A mental health seminar with Sean Astin

Ember St. Amour  
News Reporter

Sean Astin, known for his roles in "Stranger Things," "The Goonies" and "The Lord of the Rings" franchise, will be coming to campus on Thursday, Oct. 6 to talk about mental health.

Astin transitioned from acting to mental health advocacy to carry on his mother Anna Marie "Patty" Duke's legacy. Astin will be speaking in Williams Auditorium about how the mental health conversation has evolved since his mother's diagnosis of bipolar disorder in the 1980s, and how to continue destigmatizing the topic.

"When my mother was diagnosed in the '80s, her fear was that she would be put in a strait-jacket or a padded room or have electric shock therapy," Astin said at a previous college seminar. "It's a lot better now. There's a CVS on every corner where you can pick up the medication you need."

Psychology professor Dr. Connie Meinholdt explained the possible impact of having a celebrity talk about their personal experience with mental health issues.

"[Astin] is having a successful life, he's doing things, but he's also wrestling with these issues," Meinholdt said. "I think that helps sort of normalize it. This is not a unique or weird problem that makes you dysfunctional. It just makes life a little harder, and sometimes you need some breaks to deal with your issues."

Music and entertainment business junior Kaitlyn Walters is the president of Entertainment Unlimited. EU is a registered stu-

dent organization that books talent and organizes campus events for students. She explained the process that goes into planning an event like this one. EU informs their middle agent when they would like to book a campus speaker. When the middle agent sends back a list of names within the RSO's budget, members of EU research and decide together who to bring to Ferris.

"Everybody knew who Sean Astin was, of course," Walters said. "We all thought he would be a fun person to bring to campus, and we've been trying to get bigger and bigger acts to come because that's really what brings people out."

Music and entertainment business junior Alexis Stump is a runner for EU. Her duties include helping with the booking process and making sure that everything runs smoothly the day of the event. Stump detailed the booking process for talent like Astin.

"We had to book him a hotel, and then we were going to find him a driver, but... he decided to drive himself," Stump said. "So we rented a car for him, and... he's just going to drive up the day up the day of, and that's like the main process that's more of a runner position."

The event will be happening tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Williams Auditorium. The event is open to the public and is free for anyone who would like to attend and receive information about mental health awareness.



Photo by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

# MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

**Marissa Russell**  
Multimedia Editor

### Detroit

On Oct. 2, Detroit firefighters found a dead body while putting out a bush fire in a field. Around 9:25 p.m., firefighters started working around Dakota East and Hawthorne St. The medical examiner is working to determine a cause of death and the identity of the body. It is unclear if the body and fire are connected.

### Tahquamenon

A deer was caught on video going over a 50 foot waterfall in Tahquamenon Falls State Park. The video shows a young deer running through the water and then stopping at the top of one of the biggest waterfalls in the Eastern United States. After falling from the waterfall, the deer swam away unfazed.

### Mecosta

A motorcycle crash left one man dead in Mecosta County on Sept. 30. The crash happened around 7 p.m. near the intersection of 19 Mile Rd. and

220th Ave. north of Big Rapids in Green Township.

The Big Rapids man was heading eastbound on his motorcycle and crashed into the back of a car that was stopped due to a backup on the road. The car was then pushed into a truck that was also stopped due to the backup. The motorcyclist was thrown from the motorcycle and pronounced dead at the scene. Officials are still investigating the accident.

### Stanwood

After receiving a tip, the Sheriff's Office conducted a background investigation and surveillance on a target location. Deputies proceeded to identify 36-year-old Leslie Keech, a suspect from Stanwood who was reported stealing prescription narcotics.

Surveillance was set up by deputies at a local business where Keech was caught doing a hand-to-hand transaction with a Grand Haven man. Deputies were able to recover evidence from both locations and arrest the seller and buyer.

# GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

**Dylan Rider**  
Opinions Editor

### Brazil:

Following a close result, Brazil's presidential election will be going into a runoff election.

Brazil's left wing candidate, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, took 48.4% of the vote, while Lula's opponent, far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro, took 43.2% of the vote.

Bolsonaro and Lula are the only candidates eligible for the second round of the election.

Bolsonaro won his last runoff election and has been in office since 2018. Within the past year, Bolsonaro has cast doubt on the electoral process in Brazil. He's made unfounded claims about potential election fraud consistently leading up to the election.

The second round of their election will be held on Oct. 30.

### Florida and Puerto Rico:

Florida is reeling following Hurricane Ian's devastation.

According to CNN, 88 people are confirmed dead, while 600,000 homes and businesses are still without power.

Fort Myers is one of the places which was hit hardest. Houses and communities are completely destroyed.

As of writing, legislation is being discussed which could free up billions of dollars in disaster relief.

Like Florida, Puerto Rico is still reeling from Hurricane Fiona.

Fiona's death toll is up to 25, and an estimated 12,500 people are displaced.

Two weeks following the landfall of Fiona, 120,000 Puerto Ricans are still without power.



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# MCA Frag Fest entertains

## MCA invited students to week long activities

Jonathen Hart  
News Reporter

The registered student organization Media Communications Association held a week-long event called MCA Frag Fest.

Frag Fest was held from Monday, Sept. 26 to Sunday, Oct. 2. It had different daily events that appealed to different audiences.

Monday marked the start of the week-long extravaganza with a “Rapid Sketch event. Participants were asked to draw something that was centered around a theme, and a winner was awarded based on a popular vote.

Graphic design sophomore Parker Tungate took third in the event.

“My friend Jon invited me because he knows some of the people running the event,” Tungate said. “It was a lot more fun than I had anticipated, and [I] met some like-minded people with similar interests.”

The theme for the drawings was “upside down,” so Turngate used the best examples he could think of.

“We were given a prompt, and we were given a few hours to draw. The prompt was ‘upside down,’ I drew a trapeze artist, Spiderman and MJ and Eleven and Vecna,” Turngate said.

Tuesday’s event was a standard board game night that everyone loved. Students were encouraged to bring their own games so there were more to choose from.

Graphic design freshman John Thomas went to board game night and enjoyed meeting new people.

“I went by myself because I wanted to meet new people, and that is what I was able to do,” Thomas said. “Events like this help people meet others who enjoy the same things as you.”

Wednesday was a PowerPoint night. Participants had five minutes to give a presentation on any topic using PowerPoint, and the audience voted on a winner.



Photo by: Maddie Epps | Torch Photographer

Game design programming professor Varun Singireddy shows students how to play a game he designed at Frag Fest.

On Thursday, students were allowed to bring their own gaming consoles, screens and games to engage in a night of gaming. If you didn’t have any consoles, you could still show up and play and hangout with other people.

The last event was a “Game Jam,” and it lasted from Friday at 5 p.m. to Sunday at 5 p.m. On Friday at 5 p.m. a theme was announced, and contestants were given 48 hours to finish their game.

Going into the event on Friday, Thomas had a big team with a lot to offer.

“I have been in talks with some other DAGD students that I know,” Thomas said. “Currently, we have maybe five people who can do art. So far, I am the only one who knows anything about programming or using a game engine, specifically Unity. People with knowledge of the Unity

game engine are also few at Ferris, since the school uses Unreal Engine. One of my professors recommended talking to students further up in the program and joining their team, but we did not do that. I might try to recruit one instead.”

Thomas believed his team did well. The team knew what they did wrong and what they could change if they were to make another game.

“The title of our game was ‘Dimming Light,’” Thomas said. “You play as a candle trying to escape Dracula’s castle. Every ten seconds your flame gets dimmer until you die at 100 seconds in. We had several versions of the project being made at once. At the end, one had menus and a sprinting bar, and one contained the level. After merging the two, we had a few things that didn’t work right.”

Thomas’s team might have had a disadvantage, since a majority of the team were freshmen.

“Our programmer quickly went through everything the best he could, but by the time the game jam was over, the win screen was still messed up,” Thomas said. “We had a lot of things partially done that we had to cut. Primarily animations, since the time to implement them would have been very long. Considering everyone on the team was a freshman at Ferris... I think we made a solid attempt. Next time we make a game we can definitely improve though.”

Frag Fest gave students a whole week to gravitate towards events that they enjoy, instead of limiting them to only one day.

## ON THE RECORD

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

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

### Hit and run

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, time unknown - A car was allegedly damaged on the rear driver’s side door in lot 9A near Bond Circle. The case was closed due to a lack of leads.

### Bond break-in

Oct. 2, 4:41 a.m. - A Black male in his early twenties entered a female student’s room without permission. No assault occurred, and the male was seen exiting the main entrance. He was last seen wearing a red hoodie, black pants, black sneakers and a

black hat. This case is still under investigation.

### Busted

Sept. 29, 11:48 p.m. - A student was arrested while driving under the influence of alcohol in lot 4A near the David L. Eisler Center.

### Dorm Assault

Sept. 17 – Sept. 18, 10 p.m. - 8 a.m. - An instance of sexual assault in Travis Hall was reported on Sept. 26. The case is currently under investigation with no known suspect.

## STUDENT LOAN UPDATE

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

On Sept. 29, the U.S. Department of Education quietly rolled back the amount of student loan debt eligible for forgiveness.

Borrowers with privately owned federal student loans are no longer eligible for debt relief. These include Perkins loans and Federal Family Education Loans.

Perkins Loans are low interest, subsidized loans from the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. FFEL loans one of the first federal student loan programs in the nation, ended in 2010. The program worked with private lenders to distribute federally subsidized and guaranteed loans.

This change follows a lawsuit filed by GOP attorneys from Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Carolina. According to Politico, the six states asked a federal judge to overturn the debt relief program.

The complaint for this lawsuit calls mass debt cancellation “the epitome of unlawful and arbitrary agency action.” Citing the

steep increase in grocery prices between Aug. 2021 and Aug. 2022, the lawsuit claims that instead of helping the poor and working class during economic inflation, President Joe Biden is choosing to “give [the well-off] up to \$20,000.”

Only those who make less than \$125,000 annually, or married couples filing jointly who make less than \$250,000, are eligible for debt relief.

Thursday’s change will reportedly exclude 800,000 borrowers from relief. Other borrowers who are still eligible will now get less relief than they originally expected. Roughly 1.5 million FFEL borrowers also have Direct Loans, which are still eligible for forgiveness.

The Education Department “is assessing whether there are alternative pathways to provide relief to borrowers with federal student loans not held by [the Education Department], including FFEL Program loans and Perkins Loans, and is discussing this with private lenders.”

Borrowers must apply for forgiveness before Monday, Oct. 31.



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# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Gear up for fall Meet the Big Rapids farmers market



Photo by: Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor

Homemade motivational jewelry fills Kim Purdue's stand.

**Jasmine Baar**  
Culture Reporter

Street markets occur in small towns across America, so what's so special about the Big Rapids farmers market?

The city of Big Rapids hosts a farmers market in the parking lot of city hall every Tuesday and Friday from May to October. With a wide variety of vendors participating, shoppers can buy anything from fresh produce to glass art pieces.

Charity Archer, a local glass artist and certified mosaic tiler, has been perfecting her craft for four years now.

Glass art entered her life when she had the idea of having glass necklaces containing her late parents' ashes made for her and her siblings. She was inspired to make them herself, even though glasswork is a hobby that requires patience and practice.

With the help of local, family friend

Derek Allison, her dream came true. Allison made four pendants with Archer's parents' ashes, and he encouraged the artist within Archer. After two months, Archer was making beads, and after six months she started working with soft glass.

"It was a very frustrating process," Archer said. "I set my table on fire, the floor on fire and maybe a part of my cabinet and a part of another table."

She never gave up on this art, and she has been constantly learning, growing, failing and learning some more.

Archer's eyes light up when she talks about the art of making glass.

"Blowing glass has taught me how to meditate, live in the moment and be present," Archer said. "I've gotten a lot of gifts from being involved in the glass world. Glass making has taught me that failure is absolutely okay and 100% necessary for me to grow. Without trying, I

would never know what I can and can't do and how I can improve."

Archer loves to have people watch her craft. Her studio, which was made for her by her husband, has a spot designated for clients to sit, color, play with instruments and be inspired by the art she is making.

At the farmers market, positive messages and handmade motivational bracelets fill up one stand. Kim Purdue, a Ferris alumna and owner of Project You Yoga, decided to join the farmers market community this past April.

Purdue wanted to spread positive messages throughout the community to inspire and uplift those around her.

Another artist at the farmers market is Rose Stahl, a Big Rapids resident of 14 years. She has been making jewelry since she was a teenager. She began selling at the farmers market five years ago.

Stahl is very passionate about her work, and she attends the farmers market every

Tuesday and Friday. She prides herself on staying stocked and up to the times.

"I make everything, and I'm making things every day... I just changed my displays, and I'm always working to make sure that they're all full," Stahl said.

Fiona McCoy, a freshman in the pre-dental program, rushed to the farmers market after she learned about it in her 9 a.m. class. When she got there, she was instantly drawn in by the fresh kettle corn.

"I have a farmers market like this back home, and I used to love coming to the market on the weekends," McCoy said. "It was one of my routines."

The farmers market is a place to support small businesses and engage with the community. This wholesome small town scene is a must-go on your fall bucket list.

Culture editor Giuliana Denicolo and Editor in Chief Noah Kurkjian contributed to the reporting and editing of this article.



Photo by: Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor

Kim Purdue wants to spread positivity and motivation to the community.

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# Know their stories

## Four first-generation students shared their stories with the Ferris community

Kylah Robinson  
Culture Reporter

Some spoke about their troubles immigrating, while others discussed the challenges they faced growing up in the U.S.

On Wednesday Sept. 28, the Hispanic Student Organization hosted a panel event where four guest speakers spoke about their families and their own experiences as Hispanic and Latinx individuals.

Three of the guest speakers are members of the HSO: Alex Eduardo Guzman-Vargas, Gilbert Torres III and Cynthia Mariana Baeza Zavala. The fourth speaker, Hilary Sanchez, is a member of Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority Inc.

The four guest speakers shared their personal and family experiences with immigration laws, being detained and the issues with the immigration system.

The first speaker was Vargas, a first-generation biotechnology student. Vargas was born in the U.S., but his parents and grandmother are from Mexico. He detailed their journey to the U.S.

His grandparents decided to move to the U.S. for better job opportunities, so they could send money back home to their relatives. To do this, they had to leave their children behind for 10 years.

Vargas' father had a difficult time coming to the U.S. He first attempted to relocate with his cousins. They tried to cross the waters with a boat, but they were detained and dropped off in Puebla.

When he was young, Vargas' family went to visit Mexico. On the way back, his father was detained a second time for questioning on his paperwork. Vargas had to go back to the U.S. without his father, who was detained for six months.

"It was a rough time because I didn't have my dad for so long," Vargas said. "We lost our car, [and] we lost our home all because my mom wasn't able to financially support us anymore. [She was] by herself and... trying to figure out what was going on with my dad back in Mexico."

With uncertainty looming overhead due to his father's detainment, Vargas feared having to drop out of school in order to financially support his family.

Zavala's story is about her own personal journey coming to the U.S. and the process she went through to attain legal status in the U.S.



Photo by: Meghan Hartley | News Reporter

The Hispanic Student Organization hosted an event for guest speakers to tell their stories.

Zavala is a first-generation architecture and sustainability student. She lived in Mexico with her parents until she was three years old.

Moving to the U.S. was hard for Zavala because of the language barrier, however, she felt less out of place because of the community she found at her Catholic school.

"It was mainly Hispanic students, so I didn't feel like I was different from anyone because most of the people there spoke Spanish, so it was easy for me to make friends," Zavala said.

In 2016, Zavala applied for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program so she could get her license and a social security number. The process took almost a year because she had to hire a lawyer and navigate legal channels without her family.

Some families move to the U.S. for job opportunities, but the Sanchez family moved for the medical services they felt the U.S. could provide. Sanchez, a first-generation business administration student, was born in the U.S.

Originally, her parents moved to the U.S. to work, but when they saw the different opportunities that the U.S. had to offer, they decided to stay.

Some people, like the Torres family, faced social issues after they arrived in the U.S.

Torres is a first-generation social studies education student who was born in the U.S. Torres' mother was twelve when she came to the U.S. with her father for the first time in 1993. Torres' grandfather promised his daughter that she would get a better education and better life in the U.S.

The Torres family would move back and forth between Frankfort, Michigan and Harlingen, Texas for five years because of seasonal work. Due to moving so frequently, Torres feels he missed out on getting a solid education and making long-term friendships.

In 2012, they stayed in Frankfort and tried to make a living there. Helping them put down roots, a local farmer bought a complex with his own money for his

migrant workers to live in. The farmer was seen as an important figure for Latinos in Northern Michigan.

Although some people were inspired to help the Latino community, others were not so welcoming. Torres felt that the local government made it difficult for people in the Latino community to live there.

"Frankfort didn't want my family there....," Torres said. "They kept stalling on passing the regulation policy that the farmer needed to start building a complex for us to move there."

Torres never realized how unwelcome his family really was until last year, when he read an article about the

farmer's efforts. In the article, he saw his mother speaking out on problems that the Latinx community faced.

"I found that really, really heartbreaking because I never knew any of that," Torres said. "Like my mom was targeted... in the press and everything, and I didn't know that when I was like 12 years old."

The farmer went to bat for the Torres family. He stood up for them at the Frankfort city council, trying to ensure they had a place to live.

"... When the town voted [against] the complex... he wasn't gonna take no for an answer," Torres said. "He went against all... the city's rulings and the state rulings, and [he] started building the complex without their permission. When he decided to build the complex, we were the first family to move into that complex."

During the voting time, Frankfort residents brought news articles from Mexico that mentioned the drugs, killings and beheadings in Mexico. They placed these articles on the voting table to scare away voters.

Torres never wanted to share what he found with his mother because he didn't want her to think that he saw her differently.

"That is why I like to flaunt my GPA and everything. I take pride in it [because] this is what my mom worked for," Torres said. "I'm here doing her dream... Now my mom [has] bought her first house, and I'm really excited that she's finally making moves in Frankfort and proving everyone in the city wrong. We're not the stereotypes that they thought we were."

Alondra Reyna, the HSO president, is the reason why these four students were able to share their stories. Reyna hosted this event so the HSO could raise cultural awareness and show a sense of community and understanding.

Having events in Hispanic Heritage Month shows appreciation to the Hispanic and Latinx culture. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate with the HSO.

Managing Copy Editor Alyssa Myers and News Reporter Meghan Hartley contributed to the reporting of this story.

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# Dancing with Salsa Fiesta

## Learn more about Hispanic culture while being taught how to salsa

**Harmony Goodman**  
Culture Reporter

On Thursday, Sept. 29, the sound of music and laughter was heard from within the David L. Eisler Center's Ballrooms. The cause of this was none other than the "Salsa Fiesta Dance Night."

First originated in Cuba, salsa dancing was established as its own style in the 1940s. However, the dance styles it stemmed from date back to the 1900s. Back then, salsa music was quick, while today the music is slower and more romantic. Salsa dancing is all about moving with a beat and feeling the music.

The event was hosted by Salsa Fiesta, a group that travels to different universities all around the United States. David Verde founded "Salsa Fiesta" in 2019, and he is the current manager of the group. Kate Mora Woods and her husband, Ruzmel Mora Garcia, are both dancers in the group who joined in 2020.

The idea behind Salsa Fiesta was to share the cultural element of salsa dancing with America. Those who attend can expect to learn the dance style as well as the Hispanic culture behind it.

Salsa Fiesta has been to a lot of the

states, but this is their first time in Michigan, and Ferris was their first Michigan class.

"All the students were really excited. Everybody was participating and trying and really learning the moves," Verde said. "They were engaged and enjoying everything that we were presenting."

The event started by teaching a few simple moves, such as the basic and side basic moves. Students were taught these moves and were then paired together with rotating partners, where they would learn how to dance together. With so many partner switches, everyone was able to meet one another as they laughed over a few wrong moves.

Kaitlyn Lim, a health information management student, was excited to get out of her comfort zone. She is trying to be more open and see all the different things the world has to give.

"It was nice to see new faces that we may have not seen otherwise," Lim said.

The event was set up to teach everyone the basics of salsa, which made it a very casual and comfortable environment.

Students even got to practice good dance etiquette by giving their hands to their partners and asking if they would like to



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Multimedia Editor

Many of the students who came out to Salsa Fiesta didn't know anything about Salsa dancing.

Health information management student Nicole Ly believes that as long as people keep showing interest and getting involved, "Salsa Fiesta Dance Night" can be a good time.

"The events that we have planned for Hispanic Heritage Month are really great and really insightful," Ly said.

Salsa dancing is about more than just

dancing, it's about communication and trust. In partner salsa dancing, there is a leader and a follower. The leader has to be confident in the flow of salsa to direct their partner. They use their hand to direct their partner in spin directions and turns. The follower needs to trust and follow suit with their partner. Salsa is a team effort and with the right communication, it can be beautiful.

# Acknowledging LGBTQ+ History Month

## The lesser known time for celebrating LGBTQ+ history

**Charlie Buckel**  
Freelance Reporter

When people think of months dedicated to the LGBTQ+ community, chances are they're going to think of June, which is labeled as Pride Month. What many don't know is that October, while also being dedicated to other causes, is LGBTQ History Month.

Starting in 1994 by Missouri high school teacher Rodney Wilson, LGBTQ History Month celebrates the history of the LGBTQ+ community and acknowledges the work of those who fought for the rights of LGBTQ+ people. The month of October was chosen because the first two LGBTQ+ marches in Washington took place in October and because National Coming Out Day is on Oct. 11.

Although this started almost 30 years ago, the importance of LGBTQ+ History Month and what it stands for has not diminished.

"LGBTQ History Month is important because it provides visibility to queer and trans lives," Ferris graduate student and MSW intern with the LGBTQ+ Resource Center Bryce Longenberger said. "This is especially important for younger generations, as there is not currently a lot of LGBTQ representation in popular culture."

That representation is also important to LGBTQ+ students like senior Sara Hinojosa.

"As an LGBTQ+ person, I think representation is a very import-

ant thing that we need, and I feel like it's not widely talked about among people," Hinojosa said. "And I just think there should be more awareness about the history of the community."

Even though representation is important, there is a lack of it in both entertainment and education. In a study done by GLAAD over the 2021-22 primetime television slate, 92 of 775 series-regular characters, or 11.9 percent, were LGBTQ+. The data on LGBTQ+ characters in children's television is much harder to come by. So is LGBTQ+ information in education.

According to the American Bar Association, only six states have laws requiring an LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum, while 11 have LGBTQ+ inclusive health curriculums. Meanwhile, eight states have laws prohibiting education directly involving LGBTQ+ topics. The topic of LGBTQ+ in all education is controversial in the present as well. With some saying it is necessary, while others make it out to be akin to indoctrination.

"LGBTQ history should be taught more in schools," Longenberger said. "There's a huge debate happening now in several states that want to restrict the mere mention of queer and trans identities in schools."

Longenberger believes that the censorship of LGBTQ+ information in schools sends a negative message to young LGBTQ+ people. Longenberger supports

those that advocate teaching LGBTQ+ history in schools because it helps students learn about the activists that came before them.

"We also affirm that every person is valuable and important, regardless of their sexuality or gender expression," Longenberger said.

Hinojosa also supports teaching more LGBTQ+ history in schools, but they think it might cause problems for the LGBTQ+ community.

"I think it may bring more awareness and thought towards

inclusion towards students, but there are still always going to be people that are against it being taught in schools, and you just never know where it's gonna go," Hinojosa said.

Besides grade school education, Hinojosa believes that institutions like Ferris should acknowledge LGBTQ History Month and all that it stands for.

"I think, especially at the university level, it should be... more widely talked about at the collegiate level," Hinojosa said.

Here at Ferris, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center will be holding

# Opinions

Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

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## EDITORS COLUMN: *We want to hear from you*

**Noah Kurkjian**  
*Editor in Chief*

Something I often forget when working at the Torch is that we're not the only ones with something to say.

While at our core we have a wonderful staff of reporters and editors contributing to our written content, nothing makes me giddier than running a guest submission.

Not only do I work to make our in-house coverage more expansive, diverse and inclusive, but part of the mission in the switch from Lifestyles to Culture was to elevate unique voices. Sometimes the best way to do that is to step aside and let those voices

speak for themselves. These submissions allow us to amplify stories and voices we may not otherwise have the opportunity to do ourselves. Sometimes we just may not have the expertise or perspective necessary to communicate certain topics to our readership.

That's where the community comes in. We love hearing from our readers. Whether you want to give us feedback on an article, further the discussion on a topic we have already covered or submit something you have written for our consideration, we gleam when we get the notifications.

We'll take letters to the editor, guest columns and opinions, and if you've got the desire to chase

after a story yourself, we'd love to see what you've got. There are only about 30 of us Torchies, but hundreds upon thousands of readers with their own unique view of the world, and we want to hear from you.

So, what are we looking for? Well, that's really up to you. Want to share what your culture means to you? We'll take it. Want to see a change in the community? Awesome, write something up and use our platform to help advocate for change. Got an opinion on the world around us? Lovely, we want to hear it.

We also still plan to do our monthly special editions this year, starting in October with a special edition for the midterm

general election. We're also always interested in suggestions for topics, or for contributions to the special editions themselves.

If you've got something on your mind, write out around 500 words on the topic and a short biography about yourself, why you chose to speak on the matter and send it to us. From there, we'll read it, edit it, decide if and where it fits and soon you could be published.

We'd love to hear from you or read what you have to write. Reach out via email to fsutorcheditor@gmail.com, or drop us a line on social media @fsutorch.

## Torchside Chat

### President Pink gives his thoughts on his new job

**Dr. Bill Pink**  
*Guest Writer*

See if this sounds familiar: You are attending a new school, and you have moved away from home and everything familiar to you so you can make a new home and meet new people. You not only have to figure out where everything is for the first time, but you also have to find your place within those surroundings, yet you cannot help but look forward to what the future holds.

For some of you, you may have experienced this a few years ago, but for many this was only a couple of weeks ago. For those of you who are still finding your home here at Ferris, I'm right there with you! I have a new job at a new school, I'm meeting new people and I have so many new things to learn. Just like you, I am facing challenges, successes, failures and new relationships, all while trying to keep those treasured past relationships alive.

Again, I am with you! While I am confident that there will be challenges in my time at Ferris, experience has taught me that I will learn and become better through those challenges. You too will encounter classes, situations and, sometimes, people that will cause you to think, "Was this the right decision?" However, I believe that we each have the power to make our decisions the "right" decisions by growing into them.

On Oct. 8, I will have the pleasure of being inaugurated as the 19th president of Ferris State University and the first Black president of Ferris State University. However, my selection for this position was not something I lucked into, just like my acceptance of this position was not something that I decided upon lightly. There were hundreds of tiny decisions over the course of my adult life that led up to next week's inauguration, and let me tell you—most of them didn't feel "historic."

One of the things I like best about working with college students is that you are just beginning a lifetime of making mature decisions. You are so chock full of opportunity! No matter where you came from, no matter what you've done until this point, you are here. At Ferris, we all have opportunities to learn, opportunities to grow and opportunities to become the best versions of ourselves. I am thrilled to grow alongside you, and I know that together we will make historic change, not only for Ferris, but for the world.

One final thing—celebrate your victories. They are well worth the celebration!

I look forward to meeting every single one of you because together we will conquer challenges, enjoy our wins and help each other along the way. Welcome to the school year, Bulldogs!



Photo courtesy of Bill Pink staff

# The issues with ‘Dahmer’ and true crime

## Why the series may not be worth streaming



Photo by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

**Giuliana Denicolo**  
Culture Editor

On Sept. 21 Netflix released, “Monster: The Jeffery Dahmer Story.” Since then, the series has become the top show on Netflix in various countries on five continents.

As the popularity of the new show grows, opinions on whether watching the show is ethical have surfaced on the internet.

When I first heard about the show, I was excited to watch it. Then, one day when I was scrolling through Twitter, I saw a tweet that said the people watching the show were being entertained by others’ trauma. This raised a question I never asked before: are serial killer crime shows ethical?

I asked my roommate about it and she filled me in. The families of Jeffery Dahmer’s victims are still alive, and they never clearly consented to Netflix making and releasing this show. Because of this, people have started questioning why others are viewing it.

The controversy has put me in a weird spot—do I watch it or not? I still want to, but I can see where these views are coming from. Putting myself in the victims’

families’ shoes, I don’t think I’d be thrilled with the situation either.

Here’s what I think—so many movies and documentaries have already been made about this specific serial killer. While it’s an interesting topic and people thrive off of this kind of media, we are completely blind to who this affects.

There’s enough information on Dahmer, and making another show about him feels a little like Netflix is beating a dead horse. Maybe we should move on so the victims’ families finally can too.

Casting “American Horror Story” star Evan Peters as Dahmer glamorizes the serial killer and removes him from the reality of his murders. Fans are romanticizing and “stanning” Dahmer, forgetting that he’s a serial killer and not actually Peters.

Whenever a new series about a serial killer comes out, we see social media users dabbling in hybristophilia, the sexual attraction in a person who commits a crime. This is

wrong because, once again, it takes away from the reality of Dahmer’s crimes and victims. While not every viewer has participated in this behavior, casting well-known, conventionally attractive and relatively popular actors encourages it.

This series has been described as intense and hard to watch. Dahmer’s murders are dramatized and reenacted. This puts the victims’ families in agony and forces them to relive their worst fears over and over again. Other gut-churning scenes are shown, such as the dissection of road-kill and the drinking of human blood.

Regardless of the goriness of these

scenes, the show is mentally disturbing. Watching Dahmer repeatedly get away with rape, murder and cannibalism reminds the viewers that there are people out there that are capable of the worst.

While I have the show waiting for me on my list, I don’t think I will stream it. After listening to the reasoning and really thinking about those families, I can’t see myself not feeling guilty afterward.

True crime can be interesting and entertaining, but there’s a fine line between right and wrong. For me, this show feels like the line has been crossed in a way that can’t be undone.

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# Sports

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

## The man building Ferris' future

### President Bill Pink's deep roots in athletics

**Brandon Wirth**  
Sports Reporter

Big Rapids soil has been under President Pink's feet for only a few months, but he has already left a footprint.

Pink's resume includes extensive experience with athletics. He competed for the Oklahoma Christian Eagles' basketball team and even picked up NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors his senior year. Pink eventually went into coaching shortly after graduation, where he served as a basketball and tennis coach at York-Colege in Nebraska. He also spent time as the athletic director and men's basketball coach at Cascade College in Oregon, as well as director of basketball operations at the University of Oklahoma.

"These positions have prepared me for the chair I sit in today," Pink said. "Who I am today as a leader is a conglomeration of the people I have worked with."

Before coming to Ferris, Pink previously served as the president of Grand Rapids Community College for five years. He was elected to the position in May of 2017 after two years as the vice president and

dean in workforce development. Prior to this, he worked as the vice president of academic affairs at Oklahoma State-Oklahoma City from 2011 to 2015 and the associate dean at the University of Central Oklahoma from 2007 to 2011.

According to Pink, he is excited to begin working with such a "great institution and community."

"I am very hopeful and focused on how we can piece together the future of this community and institution together," Pink said.

During his time at Grand Rapids Community College, President Pink collected many honors, including being elected to the American Council on Education's board in 2019. One of the most notable characteristics students mentioned about Dr. Pink was how he interacted with the student body.

According to GRCC President of Student Alliance Brendan Burke, Pink was a true definition of a leader.

"There's no better leader than Dr. Pink," Burke said. "He always puts his students first and is always responsive."

In his long-tenured experience in educa-

tion, Pink collected a doctorate degree in philosophy of instructional leadership and academic curriculum from the University of Oklahoma. He also holds a Master's of education in physical education and secondary education from the University of Central Oklahoma, as well as a Bachelor of Science in physical education and professional education from Oklahoma Christian University. Pink is one of four former Oklahoma Christian students that have served as a college president.

Not only is Dr. Pink the 19th president in school history, he is the first Black president in school history. Pink is excited to provide for Ferris' African American community.

"It goes all the way back to the days when Woodbridge and Helen Ferris established the institution," Pink said. "They established it on a premise of opportunity for anyone in the state. They weren't concerned about what [the] socioeconomic status, color of skin or gender of the person. My hope is that it gives any African American that walks around campus hope and a vision."

So far this fall, Dr. Pink has sought

input from the statewide community on ways to improve the university. In his "Link with Pink" tour, Pink made various stops around the state to talk with former alumni and Ferris supporters at local restaurants and event centers. He has shared his vision in Muskegon, Traverse City, Detroit, Flint, East Lansing, Midland, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Big Rapids. Pink's tour has two more events slated: one being a virtual conversation on Oct. 13 and one in Holland on Oct. 26.

Throughout the weeks of conversing and talking about his institutional vision, Pink said he feels excited with the amount of feedback he's gotten.

"The tour has been really strong," Pink said. "The alumni all over the state and across the country are still strong Bulldogs, and [they] continue to be connected with the school. I'm loving to commit being connected to this alumni base."

The tour also brought feedback for a new vision document President Pink is planning to unveil at his inauguration ceremony soon. One major emphasis within the document is improving the opportunities available for what Pink called "non-traditional" students, or students over the age of 25 years old.

"We can be such a resource for some of those individuals," Pink said. "Getting them post-secondary credentials will lead them to really good paying jobs so they can take care of their families."

Another large piece Dr. Pink would like to add to the puzzle is strengthening awareness statewide with Ferris' extended education opportunities.

"We have about 20 places across the state," Pink said. "I want to better position our work in West Michigan as well as what we can do in the southeast in the Detroit area. We need to see how we can strengthen these relationships, especially with community colleges across the state and country."

All of these plans will be revealed at President Pink's inauguration ceremony slated to be held on Oct. 8 at 11:30 a.m. The ceremony will be held in Williams Auditorium with a campus and community reception to follow from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Robinson Quad. All delegates are also invited to an inauguration brunch being held before the ceremony at the David L. Eisler Center from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Students will also have an opportunity to meet Dr. Pink before the inauguration at a school-sponsored student picnic, which will take place on Friday, Oct. 7 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All students are invited to enjoy hotdogs, corn hole and conversational opportunities.



Photo courtesy of Ferris State University.

Dr. Bill Pink brings years of experience in athletics to his presidency at Ferris, including his time as a student athlete, coach and athletic director.

## SCORECARD

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Oct. 1 - Whitney Farrell 52nd place in Women 5K CC Blue

### Football

Oct. 1 - Ferris 38, Findlay 7

### Hockey

Oct. 1 - Ferris 1, Miami (Ohio) 1

Oct. 2 - Miami (Ohio) 4, Ferris 1

# Hockey looks to exceed expectations

## Bulldogs projected to finish 7th in CCHA standings



Photo by: | Multimedia Editor

**Dylan Rider**  
Opinions Editor

Ferris men's hockey is back for its 47th season all-time and its second season back in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

Last year's team finished 11-24-1 overall and landed at #7 in the CCHA standings. The Bulldogs were swept in the CCHA tournament after two separate overtimes against Michigan Tech.

According to the CCHA Coaches' Preseason Poll, Ferris isn't slated to move much in the standings as they are expected to finish seventh for a second straight year.

Head coach Bob Daniels doesn't give too much credence to the ranking predictions.

"I haven't even talked with our team about the ranking," Daniels said. "I've been at this long enough to know that the rankings more reflect the last season and [are] a prediction on this season."

As for sophomore forward Bradley Marek, the ranking doesn't sit right.

"The guys are chomping at the bit right now," Marek said. "We're ready to prove the teams wrong... We know we're a better team than that... It makes us mad, but we still got to do what it takes too. We can't just say it, we have to do it."

One of the biggest questions for the Bulldogs concerns their ability to score, especially on the power play. The Bulldogs only had 90 goals last season. That was good for seventh in the CCHA. Even worse

for the Bulldogs was their powerplay that finished dead last in the CCHA. Ferris had 121 powerplay opportunities but only 16 powerplay goals to show. This culminates to a 13.2% powerplay percentage.

The closest powerplay percentage to Ferris' 13.2% was St. Thomas at 15.2%. St. Thomas finished dead last in the CCHA standings.

Daniels is also concerned about scoring in general. He mentioned that he doesn't know if the team has a "first line on a championship level team," and said they would try to "score by committee."

In terms of the players on the team, Ferris' lineup looks a little different this year.

#### Players lost:

Defenseman *Brendon Michaelian*, transferred to Mercyhurst College

Defenseman *Nico DeVita*, transferred to University of New Hampshire

Defenseman *Connor Fedorek*, transferred to Utica University

Forward *Justin Michaelian*, transferred to University of Maine

Forward *Marshall Moise*, no eligibility remained

Forward *Ethan Stewart*, signed with Tulsa Oilers

Forward *Liam MacDougall*, signed with Cincinnati Cyclones/playing with Norfolk Admirals

Goaltender *Roni Salmenkangas*, transferred to Lindenwood University

Goaltender *Carter McPhail*, transferred to Miami (OH) University

#### Players added:

Defenseman *Travis Shoudy*, freshman  
Defenseman *Matt Slick*, senior, transfer from Holy Cross

Defenseman *Andrew Noel*, freshman

Forward *Connor McGrath*, freshman

Forward *Tyler Schleppe*, freshman

Forward *Caiden Gault*, freshman

Forward *Jacob Badal*, freshman

Goaltender *Joey Henson*, freshman

Daniels has been impressed with the freshman class.

"I've seen a lot of good things from our freshmen," Daniels said. "Travis Shoudy on defense looks like he's got potential to be a powerplay player. Up front, Connor McGrath and Tyler Schleppe have good offensive instincts, as well as Caiden Gault. We're trying to fit them into those positions as well."

#### Most recent lineup:

Line 1: Dirks - Pokorny - Schleppe

Line 2: Tulik - Marek - Ergang

Line 3: Deelstra - McGrath - Brancheau

Line 4: Gault - Venuto - Nardecchia

Defense 1: Rons - MacClaren  
Defense 2: Slick - Evennou  
Defense 3: Cooper - Schultheis  
Extra man: Farthing  
G- Stein  
G- Giesbrecht

It has been made very clear that this team is ready to get out on the ice and prove the CCHA wrong.

When asked about how the locker room felt going into this season, senior defenseman Brenden Rons reinforced this idea.

"We're just antsy. We've been here since the beginning of August," Rons said. "I think we're ready to get rolling here. Everyone's pretty comfortable with each other, and we have a really tight group."

Rons also mentioned that the team would like to bring a "playoff mentality" every night this season.

The Bulldogs played Miami (Ohio) to a 1-1 tie Oct. 1 and lost 4-1 Oct. 2, but they return home Friday Oct. 7 at 7 p.m.

The Bulldogs will debut at home against Michigan Tech in a revenge match. They'll remain at home for five games after their debut.

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# Soccer ties Saginaw Valley, again



Photo by: Tara Seth | Torch Photographer

Payton Price keeps the ball in bounds to put push the ball up the field during Ferris' 1-1 tie against Saginaw Valley.

**Joseph Nagy**  
Sports Reporter

Out of the last four meetings with Saginaw Valley, the Bulldog soccer team has tied the Cardinals three times in regulation, adding another 1-1 draw last Friday, Sept. 30.

The last time the Bulldogs took the field against SVSU was over ten months ago in the opening round of the NCAA National Tournament. The 0-0 stalemate ended in a heartbreaking loss in penalty kicks for Ferris, ending one of the program's best seasons they have ever had. However, a shot at redemption was on the table coming into last week's game.

Despite an impressive performance on the offensive side in the first half, a slow start to the second half negated the pressure that the Bulldogs had built. With 19 shots in total for Ferris, only three of those were on frame, ushering head coach Greg Henson to have the team focus on quality over quantity when it comes to getting shots off. Saginaw Valley tested goalkeeper Darya Mossalaei with six shots on goal and 13 shots in total.

"[It's] kind of a tale of two halves. I thought we were on the front foot and really went at them in the first half," Henson said. "[Saginaw Valley] made a little bit of a tactical adjustment and we didn't handle that well at the

beginning."

The crowd of 400 was greeted early with a Bulldog goal by senior Isabella Zamborini. At 5:55, Lindsay Cole sent a pass to Zamborini, who cut back to the inside for a shot to the bottom left corner. It was her team-leading fifth goal this season.

The two teams traded offensive chances for the rest of the first half. Ferris had seven corner kicks in the first half, but they didn't find the back of the net on any of those chances. Corner kick struggles have been an issue for the Bulldogs as they have only scored one goal out of 52 corner kicks in their 2022 campaign.

"We get caught up a little bit playing too direct at times," Henson said. "So we have to be able to mix and match and keep the ball."

SVSU had a number of chances, but it was not until the midpoint of the second half where they capitalized on an opportunity. Forward Stephanie Strong received a bouncing ball on the breakaway and chipped it over the head of Mossalaei at 69:59 to tie up the game 1-1.

Although the Bulldogs had a late game flurry of shots, the Cardinals stood strong to end the contest squared up at one goal apiece. With the tie, Ferris moved to 4-3-3 on the season hoping to make a push for the second half of the season.

## Volleyball sweeps weekend

### Bulldogs move atop GLIAC standings

**Jeffery Walker**  
Sports Reporter

Women's volleyball dominated this weekend and picked up wins over Northern Michigan and Michigan Tech to climb atop the GLIAC standings.

With the weekend wins, the Bulldogs move to 10-7 in the season and 8-1 in the GLIAC.

Friday's match between the Bulldogs and Northern Michigan was a battle for first place in the GLIAC. Ferris took the first two sets 26-24 and 25-22.

Northern Michigan responded by taking the third set 25-23. The Bulldogs then dominated the fourth set 25-13 to seal the victory.

Claire Nowicki and Emma Bleacher led with 16 kills, and Syann Fairfield followed up with 15.

Those were set up by Kaylee Maat's 55 assists in the matchup. The Bulldogs as a team had 64 assists on the day.

"So, it wasn't just me," Maat said regarding her 55 assists. "Our passers were passing well, hitters are putting the balls away. So, it's more than just me."

The Bulldogs started slowly against Michigan Tech the following day, as they lost the first set 25-16. They swept the remainder of the match and won 3-1.

"I was just happy our players responded," head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm said. "We didn't come out great, but they responded to that well and, you know, kind of kept their composure and went back to our basics."

Nowicki led again with 13 kills, Olivia Henneman-Dallape had 12 and Syann Fairfield had 9. The Bulldogs had 48 total Ks as a team.

Maat had 46 of the team's 48 assists during the matchup.

The Bulldogs will look to continue their success this upcoming week as they go on the road.

They face Purdue Northwest on Friday, Oct. 7, and then Grand Valley State Saturday, Oct. 8, before heading into the Midwest Region Crossover.

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