

## No Bulldog left hungry



Photo by: Meghan Hartley | News Reporter

Ferris faculty members wore their best flannels to gather in the Timme center to discuss the ways the Bulldog Basic Needs Alliance can assist students with food insecurity.

### Faculty members gather for the fifth annual Flannel Friday fundraising event

**Meghan Hartley**  
News Reporter

Meeting the basic needs of students through the donation of non-perishable items is one way Ferris faculty members are helping the Bulldog Basic Needs Alliance's cause.

On Friday, Nov. 18, administrative faculty gathered on the third floor of the Timme Center for the fifth Flannel Friday, a fundraising opportunity to give back to organizations supporting students.

Administrative Assistant to the Associate Provost of Academic Affairs Michelle Johnson organized the event in collaboration with the BBNA to collect food donations for the FSU Student Food Pantry.

"We all recognize that there's a need on campus," Johnson said. "[Flannel Friday] gives us an opportunity to support our Ferris students in a way that is not commonly talked about or popular. We just are trying to find a way to support our students on campus in a different way."

According to an article from Drexel University, 20-50% of college students in the U.S. experience food insecurity. The article explains that a few reasons why food insecurity is so high on college campuses is

because the cost of a college education is expensive, student loan burdens continue to grow, graduates leave college with more debt than ever and the cost of everything continues to increase, amongst other reasons.

The shared goal of faculty members, the Student Food Pantry and the BBNA is to help students gain access to food and resources before their situation becomes dire.

BBNA Chair Maggie Walcott says the committee officially began in 2020. The pandemic helped the committee start working because it brought many insufficiencies in the community to light.

"Those students who were already struggling with food and housing security really came to the forefront during the pandemic," Walcott said. "They didn't have homes to go home to, and when the dining hall closed, they were in a bind, so those were the things that happened that made us say, 'No, wait a minute... We need to do better as a university.'"

Walcott says when students find themselves in these difficult situations, the goal of the BBNA is to help get those basic needs met by providing housing and a source of nutrition, provided that it is

proven the student is truly in need.

"We want what everybody here at Ferris wants,... and that's to make sure that our students are successful," Walcott said. "We're taking students in, we are building them up to be the best employee that they can be. But a problem with that is when a student doesn't have any idea about when their next meal is going to come or where they may sleep that evening, it's really hard for them to focus on being successful. I call that the theft of their potential."

Walcott says they want to help as many students as possible to be successful, but they want to make sure they are taking care of the most vulnerable students first. She says that when a student reaches out to the BBNA, they will first look at the student's financial aid and meal plan.

From there they will guide the student the best they can, by reminding the students they still have express meal swipes left, directing them to one of the student food pantries on campus or working with housing to see what can be done before the student becomes homeless.

Walcott says the BBNA recently helped an international student, who wishes to remain anonymous, that was in a bad situation and needed something to tide

them over. Once the student had received help, they wrote to the BBNA to express their gratitude.

"I would like to thank you and everyone who has played a role in providing me with this help," the student wrote. "I was kind of losing hope in finding help, and applying to you guys was my last option. Thank you for not letting me down. I am more than grateful to get this. It will help me in many ways. I was very worried, but thanks to you, I now can fully concentrate on my education."

By the end of Flannel Friday, administrative faculty were able to bring in a dining-tables worth of non-perishable items, such as granola bars, soup, rice and vegetables to be donated to the Student Food Pantry.

There are multiple ways students can have their basic needs met on and off campus. For information on how to take advantage of these resources, students can head to BBNA's website or email them at [bbna@ferris.edu](mailto:bbna@ferris.edu).

# News

Jessica Oakes | News Editor | oakesj3@ferris.edu

## John Allen's departure from DPS

Why the DPS director left after one year



Photo provided by Ferris State University

**Ember St. Amour**  
News Reporter

Before Abe Haroon became director of Ferris' Department of Public Safety, there was John Allen who held the position for a little over a year.

Allen held the position at DPS from March 2021 until June 2022, when he decided to take the position of chief at the Riverview Police Department. Allen implemented changes to DPS throughout his short time there, trying to give officers and students a comfortable place to live and work.

Before taking the job at Ferris, Allen was chief of the Melvindale Police Department. Allen explained that he switched to Ferris because he was looking to retire further north, and he liked the area. Allen also explained that he was looking for a different direction than "traditional policing" and wanted to do something that he had never done before. Working on a college campus checked those boxes.

"Ferris was a lot more challenging in the beginning because there's different things from a police aspect that you have to learn," Allen said. "I actually think it's actually kind of a better policing [because] you get to do more community related stuff, and you get to do more crime prevention."

DPS dispatcher Brittany Taylor worked there during Allen's time as director. Taylor explained how serious Allen was about the officers completing their training for the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standard Certification.

"He actually kept up on assigning them those trainings," Taylor said. "I feel like... every month he would assign a handful to them for them to complete and whatnot, and they all would. He was definitely adamant on the training part and kept up on that."

In addition to the training process with the officers, Taylor explained that Allen

tried to help save the university money whenever he could. One of these being switching the parking services at Ferris. Allen explained the reason behind changing the parking services.

"Another part of the change we did is we took our parking services and we combined services with auxiliary services," Allen said. "And we moved it to the Bulldog Center so that the students would have a better experience dealing with all aspects of the campus in one location, which I thought was a better experience for our community."

Allen also implemented the app-based parking system, which would replace the coin-operated meters that are currently on campus. He explained that he wanted to make it easier for the community to park on campus. The idea behind the new system was that he doesn't know many people who carry change, but he knows that everyone has a phone. Taylor explained that this system is almost ready, with a few things left to do before it's done. Allen is also the one who suggested body cameras, which DPS plans to implement towards the beginning of next year.

Jordan Williams is a part time clerical worker at DPS. Williams said that Allen created a great environment to work in because he listened to everyone's concerns from staff to students and took them seriously. She enjoyed her time working for him, and while she was sad that he left, she understood why he did.

Allen spent the year he was at Ferris commuting back and forth every two weeks between here and his family. He explained that while he loved his job at Ferris, it was hard on his family. The decision to leave Ferris was a tough one, but his family comes first. Allen began his job as chief of the Riverview Police Department last June, where he plans to stay for another five to ten years until he retires.

## Ferris hosts Aerospace Day

**Jonathen Hart**  
News Reporter

On Thursday, Nov 18, Ferris held Aerospace Day for students to learn about the different opportunities in the aerospace industry.

Attendees included business and technology students and those who just wanted to see what the industry is like. The event offered panel discussions, classroom visits, an expo and interviews for internships and full-time employment.

Mechanical Engineering sophomore AJ Baker went to the panel and the expo.

"I was able to meet and connect with a number of people who are interested in me as an intern and learned about the options available to me as a young engineer and the wide variety of paths I can take in engineering," Baker said. "During the panel, I was able to hear a wide range of descriptions of different jobs and how people have worked their way up in the field."

Bill Bobek works at Sharp Tooling Solutions in Romeo, Mich. Sharp Tooling Solutions specializes in making small tools that are cost-effective for the mobility market for companies that may need them. Bobek talked about how he got started with Sharp and how he has adapted to the change.

"The team worked well together, the building was clean and they were all respectful to each other. I [knew] that was the type of work environment I wanted to work with," Bobek said. "It's a team of 82, so we all are able to get along. I have been there now roughly 18 months. It was a big change from where I was before. There are a lot fewer people at Sharp, but they were able to help me adjust just fine."

Throughout the day, students were able to talk one-on-one with different companies and organizations based all over Michigan for potential internships or even future employment.

Criminal justice freshman Alexis Moreland attended this event to see what types of opportunities other programs had to offer post graduation.

"I was walking through the [David L. Eisler Center] and saw the event. I walked in to see what was going on and was impressed by all the people who showed up to it," Moreland said. "As a criminal justice major, I never thought about aerospace until today and going through the different tables and learning about bits and pieces of it. This event, in my opinion, was a great way to get other students outside of the program to see what aerospace engineering is about."

Lorie Przybylo and Rick Slade are employees at United Technical, which is a company located in White Lake, that focuses on welding and engineering. United Technical is a service based company that helps companies that need help in the engineering departments.

Przybylo loves the team she works with because of how well they work together.

"We have a strong team, and they are just as passionate as everyone else, and they bring energy to the table," Przybylo said. "Working in aerospace engineering, I have met some of the nicest and most energetic people ever."

Slade enjoys working with United Technical because he can help people with their problems the best that he can. Slade enjoys seeing the payoff when the projects are finished.

"I like helping people with their problems. Since we are a consulting based company, we deal with a lot of different people, and our goal is to find a solution for them. It's nice to see their projects launch after working with them," Slade said.

Information systems and intelligence freshmen Logan Cosgrove isn't a part of the business or technology program, but his interest in aerospace is what brought him to this event.

"I like aerospace because not only does it bring humans one step closer to actually being able to explore and experience outer space more fully, it also brings more technology to planes, making them faster and safer with each advancement, making travel across our planet more efficient and reliable," Cosgrove said.



Photo by: Mariana Searl | Torch Photographer

# MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

**Covert:** The federal government denied a financial aid request to restart the Palisades nuclear power plant in southwestern Michigan.

The Palisades plant generated electricity along Lake Michigan for more than 50 years. Holtec International, a diversified energy company that specializes in decommissioning nuclear plants, was notified by the U.S. Energy Department on Friday. The Biden administration had denied Holtec and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's request for federal aid from the Energy Department's \$6 billion Civil Nuclear Credit program.

The governor believed re-opening the plant would help economic development in the state of Michigan. The Palisades plant struggled in competition with natural gas plants and renewable energy across the state. ClearView Energy Partners said in September that the closure was "likely to be permanent" because the plant had

run out of nuclear fuel and needed a new operator and buyer to solve a control rod drive seal issue. Holtec's request was admittedly ambitious.

"We fully understood that what we were attempting to do, restarting a shuttered nuclear plant, would be both a challenge and a first for the nuclear industry," Pat O'Brien, Holtec's director of government affairs, said.

More than half of the country's carbon-free electricity is generated by the nuclear power industry's 92 reactors. Roughly a dozen reactors have closed since 2013 due to competition. Nuclear power produces toxic waste, which is currently held at 28 plants across the country. Critics of the Palisades plant were relieved to hear that it would not reopen.

"For the sake of Michiganders' health, safety, security, environment and pocketbooks, we are very thankful this zombie reactor nightmare has finally ended," the group Beyond Nuclear said.

# GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

**Colorado Springs:** A shooter killed five people at a gay nightclub in Colorado on Saturday, pushing the 2022 mass shooting death toll to over 660. Twenty-five other patrons were injured.

The suspect opened fire in Club Q with a long rifle. One patron reportedly saved "dozens and dozens of lives" by grabbing a handgun off the gunman before subduing him and pinning him to the floor. Police arrived at the scene minutes later.

While the suspect's identity has not yet been confirmed, the Denver Post reports that the 22-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich is being investigated. He currently remains in a local Colorado hospital.

Colorado Rep. Brianna Titone (D), the state's first openly transgender legislator, shared the following sentiment on Twitter soon after the shooting.

"When politicians and pundits keep perpetuating tropes, insults, and mis-

information about the trans and LGBTQ+ community, this is a result," Titone said.

FBI studies show that anti-trans crimes have increased for the past two years.

Colorado Springs community members held a vigil for the victims on Sunday. Colorado Gov. Jared Polis, an openly gay man, spoke virtually due to a case of COVID-19.

"My heart breaks for family members, friends and neighbors," he told the packed church Sunday afternoon. "Evil will never win out over love and kindness."

Polis remarked on the particular trauma Colorado Springs faces after Club Q, a once safe haven for the LGBTQ+ community, was attacked.



## Gov. Whitmer's statement on voting



Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer released a grateful message to college-aged voters following the November midterm election.

**Gretchen Whitmer**  
Governor of Michigan

Dear Ferris Bulldogs, These last few years have been anything but normal. But through it all, you have continued learning, growing and still finding time for joy. I am proud of you.

As a mom of two Wolverines, I always look forward to hearing about campus life — about students discovering their passions, finding their people or exploring future paths. That spirit that lives on our campuses is the best of Michigan and of our nation. It is a sense of optimism and possibility, an energy that will power us forward in the decades to come.

We saw that energy in record-setting voter turnout on college campuses [this month]. No matter why you went to the polls or who you voted for, thank

you. Thank you for participating in our democracy and making your voice heard. It is my honor to serve you as governor for four more years, and I promise that I will work hard every day to make you proud.

Your success is Michigan's success, and I will work with anyone to make sure that you can build your future here in our beautiful state. When it comes time to decide where you want to live, work, start a business or a raise a family, I want the answer to be Michigan. That mission will drive all the work that we do in Lansing. Together, we will continue getting things done to improve your on-campus life, protect your reproductive freedom and ensure you have every opportunity to succeed when you graduate.

Let's keep moving Michigan forward together. And before I go — I am a mom, so I have to remind you — drink plenty of water, eat a vegetable, get enough sleep and be safe.

Go Bulldogs!

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## The Ferris State Torch Corrections

**For the story released on Nov. 16, "Ferris announces closure of EET program"**

The Torch mistakenly said that Professor Al Palmer was a doctor.

In the print version of this story, the final quote from William Koepf in paragraph 22 has a typo that mischaracterizes Koepf's position. The quote should read, "I really can stand up here and say that this has been done with the best interest of the students," Koepf said.

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# Mitch Isaacs speaks at the leadership development event



Photo by: Nolan Harris | Torch Reporter

Omicron Delta Kappa invited a non-profit executive director with 17 years of leadership experience to campus for a speech.

## The students of Omicron Delta Kappa hosted the annual career and professional success department's event

**Nolan Harris**  
News Reporter

Shafer Leadership Academy's executive director Mitch Isaacs presented in front of a packed room at the Student Leadership Conference in the David L. Eisler Center last Friday on Nov. 18.

For this event, Isaacs broke the mold of traditional speeches. He rejected the microphone and walked between the aisles of the seated audience, getting into people's personal space and engaging with individuals in the audience. His presentation was focused on skills that everyone must learn in any field, the nuances of body language and how to bring that knowledge to a professional environment.

The event organizers at Omicron Delta Kappa were hoping that the student body would learn core skills about how to thrive in a professional life.

Psychology senior and committee member of ODK Sydney Migorni said, "I hope [students] pick up useful skills because this is going to be very applicable to the business world. I'm just hoping they pick up on those core skills and how to interact with people in those sorts of scenarios."

Isaacs' speech was the first hour and a half, but the event also included a dinner, a presentation on proper dining etiquette and social time to network and practice the skills discussed in the presentations.

Many of the students were excited about what they learned from Isaacs' presentation. Some felt that pointing out and discussing the body language that people see every day helped them relate to the

topic because pointing and discussing common gestures and what they indicate helps as they navigate the social encounters of their life.

Digital animation and game design major Diego Horn was glad he attended the Student Leadership Conference.

"Honestly, I was thinking about skipping today, but I'm glad I didn't," Horn said. "I learned proper etiquette, [and] I'm getting a taste of what I'll eventually have to deal with in the real world once I graduate."

Isaacs made a name for himself presenting at colleges with a focus on leadership development. As the director of the non-profit Schaefer Leadership Academy in Indiana, Isaacs oversees all operations from supervising workers to giving speeches.

"How do you create culture in an organization? Where do people excel in a team? It all comes down to how do people connect. How do people relate? So body language is crucial because it gives us indicators on how we're landing with people," Isaacs said.

The actual event was hosted, organized and managed by a committee of students under the supervision of Angela Mason, the director of the department of Career and Professional Success. The key note speaker and event focus is chosen depending on the goals of the organizing students. However, the students' progress and process is overseen by Mason. This year the student committee was made up of students from the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society.

This leadership development event

was the first time where a whole student society stepped up to orchestrate an event for the Career and Professional Success department. Traditionally, it is the effort of one student and who they can recruit themselves.

Pharmacy junior and ODK honor society member Macy Ilmberger explains why their organization offered to help.

"We are a leadership organization, so we are always trying really hard to choose things that promote leadership on campus," Ilmberger said. "Historically, [ODK has] tried to host their own event, but it didn't always turn out the best."

The partnership between these two organizations was well received by attendees. Many of them said they learned skills that will help them with their professional goals and personal relationships. With the success of the Student Leadership Conference, there is no plan to cease the annual occurrence of

these professionally focused events.

For those who didn't attend, Isaacs wants the main take away to be to understand the difference between open gestures and closed gestures, meaning there are specific gestures people do that align with a relaxed and comfortable demeanor versus a scared and uncomfortable demeanor.

"If you can read that, you can do more of the things that make people feel comfortable and less of the things that make people feel insecure," Isaacs said.



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# Sports

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

## No bye, no problem



Photo by: Evan Hibbard | Torch Photographer

Mylik Mitchell prepares to take a snap during Ferris' first round playoff victory against Davenport 41-7. Mitchell converted three touchdowns during the win.

### Football downs Davenport in playoff opener

**Brandon Wirth**  
Sports Reporter

The number two seeded Bulldogs began their playoff slate on Saturday in an unfamiliar place: playing in the first round.

For the first time since 2018, Ferris did not get a first-round bye in the playoffs. Despite the unfamiliar situation, Ferris returned to the spot they reached freely over the past three seasons after a dominating 41-7 win over the Davenport Panthers.

Both teams combined for only 232 yards of passing in the contest. Ferris countered using their rushing attack, ranked 11th in the country, finishing with 232 yards on the ground compared to Davenport's 63.

Inclement weather played a major factor in the game.

"397 games I've coached, and I have never had straight days of snow like this," head coach Tony Annese said. "I was concerned about that being the great equalizer."

To start the snow-filled, windy game, Annese's team struck the scorecard first in the contest. Following a 47-yard run by

C.J. Jefferson, Mylik Mitchell found Dez Lyburtus on a 19-yard touchdown pass on their second possession. This sparked a plethora of scores throughout the afternoon by second and third-string players, which was a prime example of the team's preparation, according to Mitchell.

"Throughout the week they got to the point where they were comfortable enough to go out there and make plays," Mitchell said. "Congrats to them."

The Bulldog defense continued their strong play through the first 20 minutes, allowing only 69 total yards, four punts and one goal-line interception by Major Dedmond. Davenport finally found the endzone just over halfway through the second quarter following a nine-yard passing score, which took the lead to 7-6.

Ferris' offense responded in a big way before the half. On the third play of the ensuing drive, Emari O'Brien broke loose on a screen pass for a 52-yard score from Mitchell. Following another defensive stand, the Bulldogs orchestrated a nine-play, 70-yard touchdown drive capped off by Cam Underwood's 19-yard receiving touchdown with three seconds to go in the

half.

At the start of the third quarter, the defense continued to make momentum swinging plays. On a third down near midfield, Vincent Cooley picked off Jason Whittaker's sideline pass and returned it 67 yards for a touchdown to give the Bulldogs a 27-7 lead.

"It felt great going out there in the second half and setting the tone," Cooley said.

The offense went stale for the next few minutes, leaving many drives short near midfield. The Bulldogs finally broke the ice at the turn of the fourth quarter, courtesy of a 40-yard catch by Brady Rose and a two-yard rushing touchdown by Mitchell.

"We've been in a situation where it has been 'next man up' mentality," Annese said. "A lot of different faces did really good things, and in playoff football, that's key."

Ferris found a second rushing score late in the fourth by Jesse Rivera from nine yards out, solidifying the 41-7 win in front of a thousand bold, cold Ferris fans.

Mitchell led the Bulldogs with 155 yards passing and three touchdowns. On

the ground, Jefferson fronted the rushing attack with 71 yards, while quarterback Carson Gulker added 44, and James Coby tallied 35. Through the air, O'Brien paced Ferris with a 52 yard catch, followed by Rose with 39 yards on four catches.

Defensively, Cyntell Williams recorded seven tackles and Justin Payouto added six. Jordan Jones registered the lone forced fumble for the Bulldogs along with two tackles for loss. Shaderrick Bradford had one solo sack. Caleb Murphy and Ian Hall split the second Ferris sack. Cooley, in only his second game since Week 5, led with two Bulldog interceptions, and Dedmond had one.

When asked about the stat that stuck out to him, Annese mentioned ball security and physicality.

"No turnovers in these conditions? That's pretty incredible. Really proud of our guys," Annese said.

Ferris will now move on to the second round of postseason play, hosting three-seeded Pittsburg State on Nov. 26 at Top Taggart Field. Kickoff time is currently scheduled for 1 p.m.

## WEEKEND SCORECARD

### Men's Basketball

Nov. 18 - Ferris 89, Northern St. 69

Nov. 19 - Ferris 71, Minnesota Duluth 64

### Women's Basketball

Nov. 16 - Ferris 79, Northwood 51

Nov. 19 - Ferris 97, Illinois-Springfield 71

### Cross Country

NCAA Midwest Regional Championships: women's ninth place, men's 16th

# Final Four bound

## Soccer makes history

Joseph Nagy  
Sports Reporter

For the first time since its inception in 1999, the Ferris women's soccer team are regional champions and are heading to the national semi-finals.

Beating two of the region's top teams, the Bulldogs punched their first ever ticket to the Elite Eight with a victory over reigning national champion Grand Valley in penalty kicks. Then, they beat hosts Bemidji State University with two second half goals to advance to the Final Four in Seattle, keeping the dream season going.

In their match on Friday, Nov. 18, against the Lakers, the Bulldogs saw 110 minutes of scoreless soccer in freezing conditions. Seeing as it was the fourth time that these two teams have met this season, both squads were familiar in what was going to be brought into this game. With three shots going off the pipes for the Bulldogs and a flurry of saves made by Ferris goalkeeper Darya Mossallaei, the game was left to be decided by penalty kicks, Ferris' second time in penalty kicks this postseason.

"It wasn't the prettiest soccer game, probably a game that was destined to go to penalties," head coach Greg Henson said.

Grand Valley set the tone by scoring on their first shot, but se-

nior Isabella Zamborini matched it. Senior Nikki May followed two rounds later with a goal, giving Ferris a 2-1 lead. With saves in the second and fourth round from Mossallaei and a shot off to post by the Lakers, the game was at the feet of freshman Ella Wolf. She took two steps, sent the ball to the top left corner, beat Grand Valley's goaltender and sent her team to their first ever Elite Eight.

With a 20-15 lead in shots and a staggering 11-3 shots on goal, the Lakers tested Mossallaei. The performance brought her a career high in saves with 11. This was a main contributor in the Bulldog's win over their long time rival.

"It was really back and forth for the entire game," Mossallaei said. "We really grinded it out, especially in the cold weather."

With just a day's rest in between the games and more snow on the way, it meant another grueling match in the cold against Central Region champion and host Bemidji State. It was a frozen dead lock for the first 45-minutes, but the Bulldogs had the better results in shots, leading the category 10-2.

"We came out strong," Henson said. "I don't know how we go into halftime still 0-0."

Despite the sub-freezing temperature, it didn't take long for the offense to heat back up.

Sophomore Lindsay Cole sent a high ball off a corner kick to senior Payton Price, who headed it into the back of the net for the game's first goal at 53:00. Price earned her sixth goal of the season, while Cole notched her sixth assist in the campaign.

Only 3:13 later, May took the ball from the Beavers and sprinted up the sideline to launch a curling kick over the hands of Bemidji's keeper to give the Bulldogs some insurance. Her fifth goal of the year was the eventual game winner.

With just over 30 minutes left to play in regulation, the defense stepped up like they had throughout the entire post season. Bemidji had only four shots on goal, which were all saved by Mossallaei. With the shutout, the sophomore standout etched her name into the history books by breaking the long standing shutout record with 20.

A trip to the DII Championship Festival and the Final Four is in the team's near future, where they will play tournament number-one seed West Chester on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. in Seattle. The Cinderella story continues, and so does the Bulldogs' chance of returning to Big Rapids with a National Championship trophy.



Photo by: Kortney Carlin | Bemidji State Photographer

Izzy Zamborini fights for possession of a ball during Ferris' Elite Eight victory over Bemidji that sent them to their first ever Final Four appearance.

# Season over

## Volleyball's impressive season ends in Regional Championship



Photo by: Denny Sinnock | Quincy University

Olivia Henneman-Dallape attacks a ball during Ferris' Regional Championship loss to Missouri St. Louis. She finished three tournament games with 49 kills for the Bulldogs.

Jeffery Walker  
Sports Reporter

The Bulldogs fell short in the NCAA tournament after a hard-fought loss in the Regional Championship match to the University of Missouri St. Louis in five sets.

The Bulldogs' (26-10, 16-2 GLIAC) season ended in the Regional Championship in a five-set loss to the number one ranked University of Missouri St. Louis. This was the Bulldogs' second straight appearance in the regional championship.

After winning the first two sets, the Bulldogs could not pull off the upset and dropped three straight sets to the University of Missouri St. Louis.

"We were incredibly disappointed," head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm said. "We felt that was a match that if we played a tad bit tighter, we'd be walking away with a win."

Olivia Henneman-Dallape led the team with 16 kills, Emma Bleicher had 12, Syann Fairfield added 10 and Chelsie Freeman and Claire Nowicki both finished with nine in the match.

Kaylee Maat led the team in assists with 45. Leah Bylut had a team-high of 33 digs, and Nowicki had 20. Alina Anderson finished with 14 in the match.

"It was a great match," Bylut said. "It just came down to a couple of gutsy plays at the end, and we came up a little short."

Fairfield and Maat led the Bulldogs in blocks with six apiece, Freeman had four and Nowicki and Henneman-Dallape both finished with three.

Ferris advanced to the Midwest Regional Championship after two tournament wins against Ashland University in the quarterfi-

nals and Hillsdale College in the semifinal.

The Bulldogs beat Ashland University three sets to one on Thursday, Nov. 17.

Leading in kills for the Bulldogs was Henneman-Dallape with 19, Nowicki and Fairfield both had 12, Hannah Tecumseh had eight and Freeman added seven in the match.

Maat led the Bulldogs in assists with 49, and Bylut led the team with 22 digs.

Freeman and Fairfield led in total blocks with three, while Nowicki, Maat and Henneman-Dallape each added two.

After defeating Ashland University, the Bulldogs then defeated Hillsdale College three sets to one on Friday, Nov. 18, in the Regional Semifinal to advance to the Regional Championship.

In the match against Hillsdale College, the Bulldogs rallied, winning three straight sets after losing the first one.

Leading in kills for the Bulldogs was Nowicki with 17, Henneman-Dallape had 14, Fairfield had 12 and Freeman finished with 11.

Maat again led the team in assists with 53, while the rest of the team combined for four.

Bylut led the team with 24 digs, Anderson and Nowicki both had 15 and Maat had 14 in the match.

Freeman had seven blocks, Henneman-Dallape had six, Fairfield had four and Maat added three.

Despite starting the season 0-6, the Bulldogs ended the season with a 26-10 overall record and a 16-2 GLIAC record that gave the Bulldogs a GLIAC regular season championship. They also went on to win the GLIAC tournament championship during the season.

"It's been a journey," Henneman-Dallape said. "We're getting one-percent better everyday. Watching everyone grow, not just as volleyball players but as humans, is incredible. We never stopped or thought we had a limit."

With just two seniors on the roster, the Bulldogs will turn to next season, poised for another strong year.

# Another weekend, another split



Photo by: Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor

Noah Giesbrecht makes a save during Ferris' 4-1 victory over Bowling Green on Saturday. Giesbrecht was 32-33 on saves during the victory.

## Ferris and Bowling Green hockey take turns dominating

**Dylan Rider**  
Opinions Editor

The Bulldogs have played six weekend series to start their season. They have split all six of them.

Most recently, Bowling Green visited Ewingleben Ice Arena on Nov. 18 and 19 and took Friday's game 6-0 before Ferris responded with a 4-1 win on Saturday.

One night after being dominated, the Bulldogs (5-6-2, 2-3-1 CCHA) responded with a convincing win of their own against the CCHA-leading Falcons (6-8-0, 5-5-0 in CCHA).

Despite leading Friday's game in the shots on goal category, the Bulldogs came out of the first period down 2-0. The game continually got worse for the Bulldogs as, in a nine minute span, Bowling Green tacked on four more goals.

Following the sixth goal at 10:10 in the second period, junior goaltender Logan Stein was pulled for sophomore Noah Giesbrecht. Giesbrecht did not concede a goal, but the Bulldogs were unable to battle back despite putting up a season-high 39 shots. Bowling Green goaltender Christian Stoeber had his best performance of the season, going 39-39 on saves.

Head coach Bob Daniels felt some things needed to change heading into the next night against Bowling Green.

"The easy thing to say is that we need to score and they have to score less," Daniels said.

"That would be the easy thing to say. No matter what happens tomorrow, it'd be nice to get the first goal. But, no matter what happens, we can't have a second period like we had tonight."

With both goaltenders essentially splitting the game, it was unclear to Daniels as to who would start the next night. Although not disappointed with Stein's performance, Daniels said that it was "past that point" of having a set Friday/Saturday schedule for Stein and Giesbrecht to play. Whoever gives the best chance to win will get the start on the given day.

The answer to the question of starting goalie was answered the next night when Giesbrecht received the nod. The Bulldogs brought a much better effort to Saturday's tilt.

Like Daniels wanted, the Bulldogs opened the scoring in the first period, courtesy of sophomore forward Nick Nardecchia's first goal of the season. Continuation of Bulldog scoring came in the second period, as freshman forward Caiden Gault scored his first collegiate goal. The uninterrupted Bulldog onslaught ended with a goal from senior defenseman Blake Evannou for his first goal of the season.

With a 3-0 Bulldog lead, a Giesbrecht shutout looked almost certain. Unfortunately, Bowling Green netted an extra-attacker goal with just over two minutes left. In order to slam the door for any sort of comeback, junior forward Antonio Venuto scored

an empty net goal to secure the 4-1 victory.

Drew Cooper collected two assists on the night, while Nardecchia, Stepan Pokorny and Zach Faremouth each added one.

"We emphasized not messing around with the puck as much," Cooper said. "We got it up to our forwards and let them play with it. We were able to play with speed and play the whole 200 feet of the ice. That allowed us to play more in their zone tonight."

Daniels was happy to see his team rebound after a tough loss.

"Well I am really proud of the guys for bouncing back after

the really difficult loss last night, they're all difficult," Daniels said. "If you lose one 3-2 late in the game, that's difficult. But last night was difficult for a different reason. Today was a new day, and I give the guys credit."

Daniels gave credit to his players for having short-term memory regarding the previous night's "shellacking."

Giesbrecht seemingly picked up where he left off from Friday's game, saving 32 of 33 shots in Saturday's game. He mentioned that playing in Friday's game helped prepare him for Saturday's.

"I think [it was] just seeing shots and just getting the feel for the puck," Giesbrecht said. "They're shooting a lot, so I got into a rhythm with it last night and brought it over to tonight, and it felt good."

Giesbrecht classified the one goal scored by Bowling Green as "lucky" and only felt he needed to battle through the final three minutes to get the win.

The Bulldogs will be on the road next week when they face the Minnesota State Mavericks. They won't return home until Dec. 9, when they play the Northern Michigan Wildcats.

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# Opinions

Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

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## EDITORS COLUMN: *Online learning probably saved me from dropping out*

**Noah Kurkjian**  
*Editor in Chief*

I accidentally fell in love with online classes. That almost feels dirty to say, but they were an answer to a problem I didn't know how to fix. I, like almost 12% of college students, suffer from an attention disorder.

Typical in-person classes have always come with their ups and downs for me. They made it so I couldn't do other things during class times, yes, but as soon as I lost my attention once, I spaced out for good and that was that. I'm also not always the most attentive at the same time every day. Sometimes it's in the morning, sometimes afternoon or even 2 a.m., but there's not a drop of consistency.

Furthermore, classes that have a longer scheduled time, or are rather lecture heavy, are even

worse. An hour and 20 minutes into a two-hour lecture, my eyes are glazed over and Taylor Swift is coming out of the professor's mouth instead of the lecture material. I thought this was just how learning was going to be for me.

Then COVID-19 took over the world, and we were ushered online. What I thought was going to be even worse for me turned out to be one of the best things to happen to my education. Whether it be Zoom lectures, pre-recorded lectures or a non-lecture-based asynchronous class, these were leaps and bounds better for me.

Zoom lectures allowed me to be a bit more comfortable during class. I could fidget about while I took notes, wear more comfortable clothes that I wasn't so aware of and get up for a quick stretch whenever I was getting a bit too restless. I also had the

option to take class where I needed it to be. From my desk in my bedroom, to my kitchen for more space or to friends' houses for a change of scenery — anywhere I had WIFI, I could still learn.

Pre-recorded lectures offered me the flexibility I never knew I needed. I can do what works for me, whether that be pausing to catch up or taking a break for a few minutes to digest some particularly difficult subject matter. I also don't have to consume a lecture in one sitting with this option, either. I can break it up however I need to for that day. I can also treat the more procedural lectures like podcasts and keep my hands entertained while consuming the material.

Similarly, asynchronous courses that are not lecture-based quickly became my favorite way to learn. I get to fully pick when I get to do any and every aspect

of the class. Readings at 2 a.m.? No problem. Inspiration strike for an assignment over lunch? Cool, that's just fine.

These flexible options are not just enjoyed by me, either. Entire universities have been born based on these concepts, and more brick-and-mortar institutions are expanding their options to meet students where they are. According to Univstats, in 2021 nearly 3,000 Ferris students were enrolled in exclusively on-line courses.

This alternative option allows a greater number of students to further their education in a way that works for them. I don't know if I would have been as successful in college without these options. What I once thought would feel like a pandemic prison turned out to be one of the best things to happen to my educational experience.

## The cost of college

The perennial issue of tuition costs persists even with debt relief

**Mackenzie Griffin**  
*Culture Reporter*

When looking at Ferris' average annual tuition of about \$24,000, it is incredibly daunting and stressful. For most students, that's not an easy bill to fork over. Personally, I was terrified. I knew Ferris was the place for me and had always known I wanted to go to college, but once I saw the price tag, I began to question if going to college was the smartest decision.

I grew up with a single mom, so scholarships were my only option. Scholarships are only getting easier to access online, which only makes them even more competitive. I applied to over fifty scholarships across different platforms, and I only received five of them. While this was helpful, it still wasn't enough.

Plus, loans are scary. Rising interest and inflation rates only add to the fear of being in debt, which could be detrimental to one's future financial stability. Originally, when I decided on going to Ferris, I assumed I was going to have to take out a \$20,000 loan.

That truly made me believe that I shouldn't be going to college because that was only going to cover one year. I didn't want to be in debt for the rest of my life. Although I was in the top of my high school class, I still believed that I shouldn't go to college because of the price.

Luckily, I only needed to take out a fourth of that loan, but for college students with a minimum wage paying job, or those who aren't as fortunate and have little to no family help, that's still not easy.

When looking at your bill, you must also realize that you won't just be charged the cost of tuition. For my program, I had to buy almost \$300 in software, and for my first semester I spent about the same on books. Don't forget the \$130 parking pass and the insane gas prices if you plan on going anywhere, either.

At the beginning of this year, President Joe Biden approved a loan forgiveness plan. However, this plan has been blocked by courts and has caused a halt to the program. If this doesn't change many of Ferris' students will not be able to partake in the

plan.

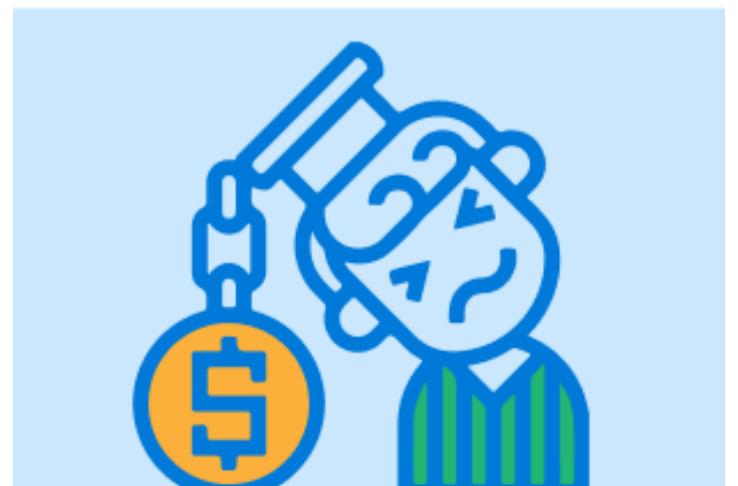
James Kvaal, the Education Department's undersecretary said, "Unless the [Education Department] is allowed to provide debt relief, we anticipate there could be an historically large increase in the amount of federal student loan delinquency and defaults as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic."

While this is a widely debated topic, this loan forgiveness plan has been a weight off so many people's shoulders. It is one less bill for people who are struggling

to get by, and I can only see the call for it to happen again.

Even though we are getting an education that we need for many of our careers, we are still paying an insane amount for it. I worry about what I may need for my next three years here, but I will take it one year at a time because I am determined to get my degree.

While I am very happy to be at Ferris, I am scared for my future, and can't even image how difficult it will be to send my future children to college.



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

# Let children learn

## Educational censorship is a disservice to us all



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

**Jess Oakes**  
News Reporter

Far too many adults are keeping their children from important education with movements to ban books, history lessons and the mere mention of same-sex relationships.

Last year, I attended a presentation about the history of lynching. Some students remarked that they had never learned about the topic in depth before. The presenter then asked us whether younger teenagers should learn about something as intense and gruesome as lynching. Almost every attendee said no.

I was the dissenter in the room, and it stunned me to hear adults say that high schoolers are not mature enough to learn about our nation's history. Some even said that high schoolers were not informed enough to discuss such a topic. The irony. How are people supposed to become informed if not through discussion in school?

Unfortunately, this sentiment is not rare. As someone who splits her time between Big Rapids and Florida, I have seen a fair share of adults call educational censorship "parents' rights."

There is a continuing sad saga that takes place in Jamestown, located south of Grand Rapids. A millage to fund Patmos Library failed for the second time in this November's midterm election. Without this crucial taxpayer funding, the public library's future looks grim. This decades-old library may close because Jamestown residents wanted to ban the book "Genderqueer: A Memoir," and the librarians refused.

"Our tax dollars should never be spent [on] grooming children," Donna Rotman of Jamestown said at a board meeting. "The content in some of the books contains graphic sexual dialogue and narratives. No child has an innate sense of being genderqueer or gender fluid. It is manipulative, destructive and wrong. A library that pushes this agenda is disrespectful."

"Genderqueer: A Memoir" is the most banned book in the country. While Patmos librarians agreed to keep the book behind the counter and only check it out to patrons who specifically ask for it, that still was not enough to keep its doors open indefinitely. This story is bigger than Jamestown. PEN America reports that 41% of books banned across the country contain LGBT+ themes and 40% contain promi-

nent characters of color. American citizens are voting against public education.

To focus more closely on schools, I will explain the restrictions my mom faces as a first-grade teacher in Florida. Gov. Ron DeSantis signed the "Parental Rights in Education" bill in March.

"Classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties in sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade three or in a manner that is not age-appropriate," the bill reads.

The state legislature vetoed an amendment that would define "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" in the bill. Might I add that "age appropriate" is also vague, which leaves it up to the interpretation of lawmakers that hardly ever speak with members of the LGBT+ community. Teachers have been warned against wearing clothing that may spark conversation about LGBT+ matters, prompting the bill's colloquial title of "Don't Say Gay."

Last week, a federal judge blocked Florida's "dystopian" Individual Freedom Act in universities. The act was previously known as the Stop W.O.K.E. Act, "WOKE" standing for "wrongs to our kids and employees." The bill prohibits any instruction

in schools or workplaces that support the following ideas:

"An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin."

"An individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin."

This bill aims to make the mention of racial and sexual oppression illegal because of the mere "discomfort" that white people, straight people and men may feel when they learn American history. It is not the state's job to ensure that white people never feel bad for racism.

Similar laws banning racial history and discussion of human sexuality are being passed across the country. They masquerade as armor to protect Americans from dreaded critical thinking. As a journalist and scholar of history, I understand that some stories are hard to hear. My classes have exposed me to wartime images that deeply disturb me. If we turn our backs on history or politics that make us uncomfortable, our education will dissolve like the funding of Patmos Library.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

# Jasmine Baar

**Jasmine Baar**  
News Reporter

Greetings Torch readers! My name is Jasmine Baar. This is my first semester working for the Torch as a culture reporter and my second year here at Ferris.

Chasing articles, meeting new people and getting to share the stories that happen on campus is a new found love the Torch gave to me. I am majoring in communications with a minor in journalism. Growing up, I always loved watching and reading the news about civil injustices and climate change, which are some topics I am passionate about. In the future I hope to work in the news, writing and reporting across the globe.

In my free time I listen to the National Public Radio. I find it extremely important to stay up to date

on the news, politics, science and health and arts and music.

I am from a tiny town called Holly, Mich. I was a part of my high school's yearbook, and by senior year I was promoted to editor in chief. I enjoy spending time outdoors and collecting rocks. On a warm day you can find me reading in my hammock. I love music, but who doesn't? My favorite band is Sublime. One fun fact about me is that I'm a vegetarian, and I haven't eaten meat in about four years. I look forward to growing my skills with my time in the Torch and sharing the events and stories that take place at Ferris. Go Bulldogs!

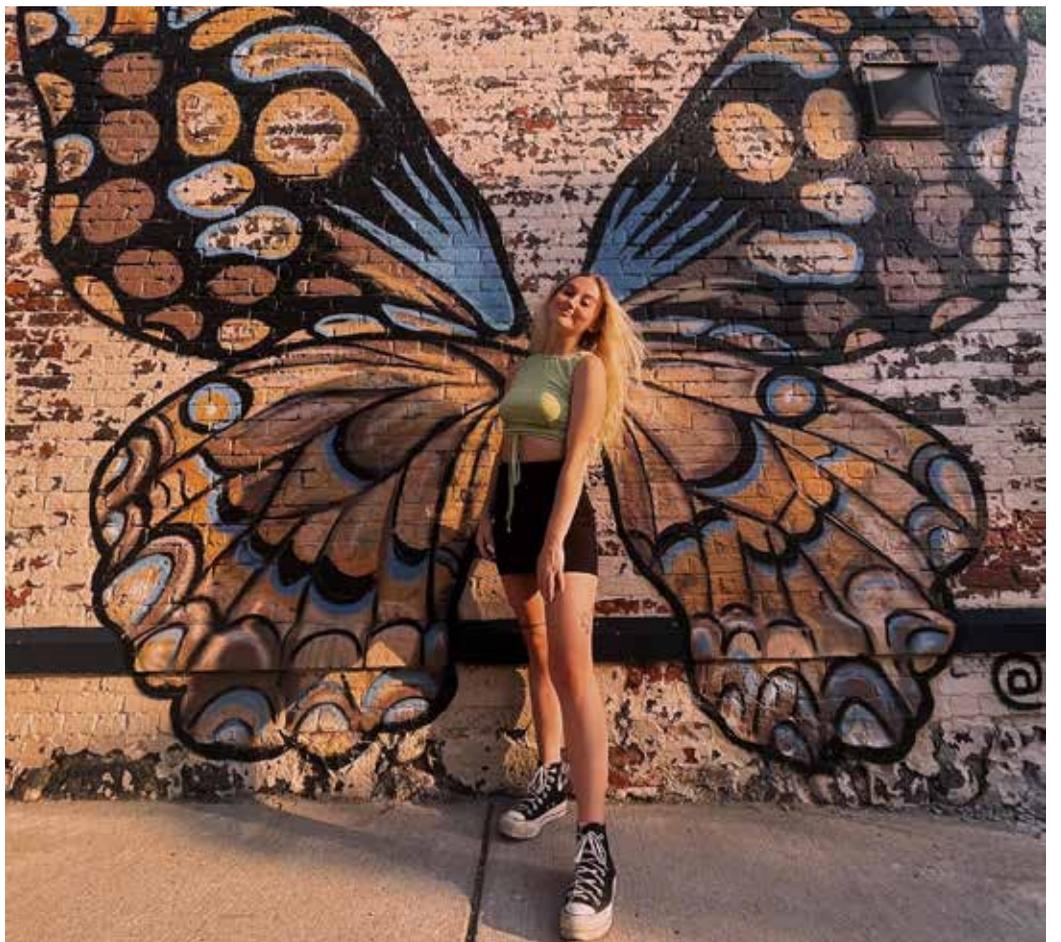


Photo courtesy of Jasmine Baar

# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Child prodigy

14-year-old Emily Larson is nearly half way through an associates degree



Photo courtesy of Emily Larson

LifeTech Academy offers a "Middle Early College" program that allows students to extend their K-12 education with a formal fifth year that allows them to earn an associates degree alongside their diploma.

**Jasmine Baar**  
Culture Reporter

Imagine being 14-years-old again, starting high school and thinking about what comes after. Emily Larson has gone a few steps further and started college.

Larson juggles high school, college, work, athletics, extracurricular activities and her family at 14-years-old. Larson is working towards a liberal arts degree in integrative studies through the early middle college program at Ferris and Lifetech. She has done a mixture of online and public school, starting with MVCA, then moving on to Lifetech, two online education services.

In an undergraduates age distribution study done by the Hamilton Project, an economic policy initiative, about 5% of students under 18 are enrolled in a four-year public or private institution.

Larson is the oldest of five siblings. She has twin brothers and two sisters, and family means everything to her. Larson is an avid reader and a fan of the dystopian genre. She often travels long distances to go to various libraries, and she participates in many book clubs, including online clubs with Outschool, the virtual marketplace for classes.

She has been able to share some of her hobbies with her little sister and enjoys doing that in her free time. Larson reads with her sister when she can, hoping the bookworm gene rubs off.

Outside of academics, Larson recently began to tap dance, and she has played travel basketball. She babysits on the side for extra income as well.

With so much accomplished at a young age, Larson explains that she is hopeful for her future. With a full plate of responsibilities, Larson relies on blocking out time to attend to her duties while also making sure to balance her mental well-being, work, academics and family obligations.

"My ambitions make me strive for more experience, which pushes me to where I am today," Larson said. "Anyone can reach the stars if you work hard enough — sometimes you just have to work harder."

Larson has left a trail of high grades and achievements throughout her school years and was even able to skip a grade. Growing up, some of her teachers referred to her as a "child prodigy."

"It's a glorifying word, 'prodigy.' It's just something you have to live up to," Larson said.

Sandra Larson, Emily Larson's mom, beams with joy when bragging about her eldest.

"She is an excellent role model, a shining star, a golden child, and I can only hope my other kiddos become like her," Sandra Larson said.

Sandra Larson explained that Emily was not spoiled growing up and that they come from a low income family. There was once a time when they lived in a home where when it rained outside, it would also rain

inside.

"Sometimes when things were falling apart, she would often be the rock of the family," Sandra Larson said.



Photo courtesy of Emily Larson

With 25 college credits under her belt at the end of this semester, Larson is seeking an associates in liberal arts.

# RSO SPOTLIGHT:

## *American Arab Pharmacy Association*



Photo by: George Lawless | Torch Photographer

The Arab American Pharmacy Association was created to “give Arab’s a voice in pharmacy,” according to AAPA President Zeina Elroumi.

**Mackenzie Griffin**  
Culture Reporter

The American Arab Pharmacy Association is a newer organization at Ferris, but they have already made a big difference in the Big Rapids community.

Dr. Adnan Dakkuri, a professor of pharmaceutical sciences and the association’s founding advisor, helped create the association in 2011 and was the recipient of the 2016 Diversity Enhancement Award.

“[The AAPA] was founded to give Arabs a voice in pharmacy and have inclusion for Arab Americans who are studying in the pharmacy programs,” AAPA President and P2 pharmacy student Zeina Elroumi said.

Elroumi makes it clear that the association is full of diversity and is not only for Arab students. This has been a great way for her to make friends and connect with others. She has also been able to “branch out and network” with Wayne State’s e-board, which is where the AAPA was originally founded.

“I was able to connect with others, not just with other Arabs, but with other people in general, and it made me more confident,” Elroumi said.

The AAPA also has a group of alumni that have been very supportive of them. They have donated a lot in scholarships to the College of Pharmacy.

Along with their monthly general meetings, where they discuss what’s coming up, many members are friends outside the association. They keep in touch through their group chat, they organize study sessions and some of the members have even become roommates.

“The reason why I became president of AAPA was because our current treasurer, Ali Yehya, motivated me to take on the role during elections back in April,” Elroumi said. “The rest of our current e-board members, Ragad Daoud, Nour Mehdi, Yuli Zheng and Phu Ho, all do an amazing job as well. We work together as a team to get things done, and I appreciate them and would not be the leader I am if I did not have them backing me up and supporting me.”

The AAPA works to include students outside of the organization. They have put on many events in the past, including an annual volleyball game, a basketball game and a clothing sale to recruit more members.

They try to get outside opinions on what

people would like to see from them by using a form that they put out at the beginning of the semester. They took this feedback and held a cider and donuts event last month, where students interacted with AAPA members and had some fun.

The AAPA has given back to the Big Rapids community in a big way. They are currently working with WISE, a women’s shelter in town, to collect donations of items, such as feminine hygiene products and winter clothes. According to Elroumi, this has been her biggest accomplishment since being elected as the AAPA president.

“We chose [WISE] to endorse because giving back to the community is essential, and spreading awareness is vital, especially for those who are afraid to speak out against their abusers,” Elroumi said.

WISE’s goals resonate with the Oath of a Pharmacist, which states that they “promise to devote” themselves to a “lifetime of service to others through the profession of pharmacy.”

Along with this, they go to middle schools in the area to give presentations on antibiotic resistance that teach the students about why it’s important not to take antibiotics when you don’t need them.

An event that the entire organization and its advisors look forward to is the annual AAPA banquet. This event is held in June in Dearborn, and it brings together the members, staff and alumni from the University of Michigan, Wayne State University and Ferris. At this banquet, students receive scholarships for their academic success and are able to network.

Under new advisement from Dr. Qian Ding, the AAPA has only grown. Ding has been very impressed with how much the members have been able to accomplish and how well Elroumi has taken on the leadership role as the president of the association.

The organization tries to promote its program and the Arab culture. On Nov. 28,

the AAPA is having a middle eastern bake sale where they will be selling pastries from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the College of Pharmacy’s lobby.

The AAPA encourages everyone to stop by and enjoy these authentic treats.

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# From a dream to a reality



Photo courtesy of Charles Cartwright | Cartwright International

Cartwright International is hosting “Teams & Presentability,” a seminar intended to teach teams “how to be a cohesive unit.” Those interested can sign up at the link in the digital edition of this story.

## How an idea became a business

**Jonathen Hart**  
News Reporter

When marketing senior Charles Cartwright was a kid, entrepreneurship was always at the top of his mind.

Cartwright wanted to do something that would help other people out, so that is exactly what he did. Three years ago, Cartwright turned an idea into reality when he collaborated with his friend Nicolas Schmidt, who later recruited Kenny Smith, and created Cartwright International.

Cartwright International is a product brokerage firm that works with companies that are not big enough to employ their own sales staff or are struggling to find sales. Cartwright International helps them by facilitating sales relationship and by providing training.

“We also help... their own in-house sales teams by training them, giving them the appropriate materials [and] mixing a bit of modern sales techniques with traditional sales technique to deliver a result that’s extremely profitable, as well as helping companies that are in financial trouble find venture capital funding [or] angel funding and getting them back on track,” Cartwright said.

Everyone at Cartwright International is able to bring something different to the table.

“There’s a lot of different perspectives we have coming from different angles... especially because we’re offering different sectors of life,” Schmidt said. “We’re all studying something different, [and] we all engage with different people. None of us have the same outlook, and when you are working as business partners, that’s the best thing.”

Not only does the team at Cartwright International run a business, they also host a podcast. The podcast was Cartwright’s idea, and he created it for those who can’t make it to their events. On the podcast they talk to different people from different backgrounds and explore how they have come up in the business world.

At the time of writing, their first podcast guest was President Bill

Pink. On the episode they talked about his educational background and his time as Ferris’ newest president. Cartwright International will soon be recording an episode with the old CEO of CVS Health, Larry Merlo, as well as former Rite Aid executives. Cartwright International is also hoping to speak with current and former politicians to see how they have made their rise in the space.

One of Cartwright International’s goals is to secure offices wherever they can get them in order to further their objective of helping as many businesses as they can.

Since Cartwright International’s conception, they have made strides in the U.S. as well as reaching brands in New Zealand, Canada, Sweden, South Africa, Mozambique and India.

“Our goal for this company is to have offices [on] every continent I can put them on,” Cartwright said. “I want to be not only just a Michigan based business that works in 14 countries. We’re helping hundreds of countries and hundreds of businesses, and I want to make sure we can continue doing just that.”

As the team at Cartwright International has been going through the process of developing a business that people can work with and trust, one of the biggest downfalls they have encountered is people worrying about their ages.

“Whenever we get talked to about our ages, we always have the same response: ‘Not only are we college kids, but our perspective on the world is fresh,’” Cartwright said. “We work with people from the older generation who might have a more pessimistic outlook on the younger generations coming up.”

Cartwright believes that young people should start their businesses sooner rather than later.

“I implore anybody who’s thinking about starting a business — who’s thinking about going after that goal — [to] do it now, do it in your early 20’s,” Cartwright said. “Because I can tell you if you fail now, it’s going to be easier to land on your feet today.”

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