

## Ferris says ‘Game On’ to Waka Flocka Flame



Photo provided by Wikimedia Commons, The Come Up Show from Canada

Rapper Waka Flocka Flame will take to the Williams Auditorium stage as Entertainment Unlimited’s spring concert performer.

### Trap Artist Waka Flocka Flame to perform at Williams Auditorium March 29

**Jonathen Hart**  
News Reporter

“No Hands” rapper Waka Flocka Flame will give a free performance at the Williams Auditorium at 7 p.m. on March 29.

The “global icon” and rapper is a big stylistic departure from last year’s spring performer, LANCO. Entertainment Unlimited President Kaitlyn Walters spoke about the process of selecting talent for the spring concert.

“We wanted to go with a rap musician because last year we did a country band,” Walters said. “We kind of figured out that Ferris’ target audience either [likes] country, or rap or both, so we got a list of rap artists that would fit in our budget and timeframe and showed it to our group. Waka Flocka was a consensus; that’s who everybody wanted. And then we took the steps to get him here.”

Walters wants to fill the auditorium, and she believes that there will be more in attendance than last year’s performance.

When double major diagnostic medical sonography and allied health sciences freshman Sammie Sieckowski heard that Waka Flocka was going to be performing, she knew immediately that this performance would be different than other Ferris concerts.

“I think a lot of people will show up because of it specifically being Waka Flocka. I know that turn out for different shows have been small, but I think that for this show there will be many people to watch his concert,” Sieckowski said.

Sieckowski has made many memories with Waka Flocka’s songs, and that’s one of the main reasons she wants to attend.

“I want to see him because of his top songs. I have fun memories with friends and parties where his music played. Plus I just really enjoy concerts in general,” Sieckowski said.

Waka Flocka is known for re-popularizing trap music after dropping the first volume of his street classic, “Salute Me or Shoot Me.” The 2012 mixtape caught fire with songs “We On The Way,” “Dreads N Gold” and his breakout single, “O Let’s Do It.” The mixtape’s buzz allowed Waka Flocka to release his proper debut, “Flockaveli,” which peaked at No. 2 on the Billboard 100. With many platinum signature hit records including “No Hands” and “Wild Boy.”

Criminal Justice freshman Alexis Moreland is excited that he is coming and even more excited that it is free.

“My first thought was ‘no way.’ I couldn’t believe it,” Moreland said. “I have listened to him since he created ‘Wild Boy’ with Machine Gun Kelly in 2011, so hearing that [it’s] an artist that I have listened to for 12 years and you get to see them live, it’s an exciting experience,” Moreland said.

Design freshmen Karion Outley believes there will be a good outcome at Williams for this concert.

“I think there’s going to be a good amount of people in the auditorium to see Waka Flocka because he’s iconic and everyone knows ‘No Hands,’” Outley said.

Outley is excited for the upcoming concert.

“I want to see him because I think that it’s awesome that our school could get a star like him. I wasn’t expecting it,” Outley said.

Students can expect him to bring the same amount of energy to this concert that he does for all his other ones. Flame retired from making albums in 2012, stating he “never rapped to become famous.” Flame didn’t want to change the way he was viewed or write his music for anyone but himself.

### Masquerade themed Winter Ball comes to Ferris

Pride Big Rapids collaborates with the LGBTQ+ Resource Center



**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

Pride Big Rapids and the LGBTQ+ Resource Center invite the Ferris community to a night of dinner, dancing and masquerade madness.

Tickets are now on sale for the Winter Ball, held Friday, Feb. 10, from 5-9 p.m. in the David L. Eisler Center Ballrooms. For \$30, guests will be provided with four hours of dinner, snacks and music. For \$15, guests are welcome to arrive at 7 p.m. to eat chips and desserts and dance the rest of the night away. Ferris students may also get a 10% discount via the Eventbrite website.

LGBTQ+ Resource Center Director Becca Osborne is still new to the Ferris and Big Rapids community. Osborne has high hopes for the event and what it will offer students.

“I hope that the Winter Ball brings Ferris students and the Big Rapids community closer together,” Osborne said. “I also hope it gives people a more gender-affirming formal experience, since a lot of the LGBTQ+ community didn’t have a very good prom [or] school dance experience.”

Osborne is still new to their role as director. While collaborating for the Winter Ball, Osborne called PBR a “great ally” and looks forward to working with them again in the future.

PBR Vice President Remington Hernandez sees the Winter Ball as something to kickoff the fundraising season. Ticket sales will go towards this June’s PBR festival. Last year’s festival, the first for Big Rapids, exceeded Hernandez’s expectations with over two thousand attendees. While PBR is still in **MASQUERADE** | see page 4

# News

Jessica Oakes | News Editor | oakesj3@ferris.edu

## Former Voice contestant makes college debut

Entertainment Unlimited hosts singer songwriter Lauren Frihauf

Nolan Harris  
News Reporter

Lauren Frihauf, once a 16-year-old voice contestant, now a 19-year-old independent artist, came to warm the David L. Eisler Center with original music on one of the coldest days of the winter.

Last Tuesday, students studied in chairs and looked down from the Quad balcony while Frihauf sang her heart out. The songs included tracks from her upcoming album and covers from some of her favorite artists. It was a welcomed event put on by the Entertainment Unlimited registered student organization.

Lauren Frihauf took time between the songs to talk to the audience and give background for her next piece. Her friendly demeanor was met with whooping and hollering from the student body, who were eager to hear more.

"It was fun to perform in front of people who are in my age group," Frihauf said. "A lot of times I'm playing for people signifi-

cantly older than me...I'd love to do more college performances. This was a great way to start."

Growing up in Colorado, this was Frihauf's first time in Michigan. After her experience on "The Voice," she has focused on the local music scene in her area and created her first album, which is planned to release this year.

Lauren points to her family as the main source for fostering her love of music.

"My older brothers actually played instruments growing up. One of them played guitar and the other played piano. There was music all over the house, and I thought it was really cool and I looked up to them. So, I picked up piano and then later voice," Frihauf said.

Her connection with her family is still strong. She points to her mother as the person she relies on as she performs, travels and navigates all the challenges of music creation.

You may recognize EU from their events featuring "Everything the Office," and last



Photo by: Evan Hibbard | Freelance Photographer

Lauren Frihauf performed original music and popular covers at the David L. Eisler Center.

year's LANCO concert. Frihauf's performance marks their first event of the year. Although it was modest, Frihauf's music was a nice surprise for all who attended.

Mechanical Engineering Technology Major sophomore Rebecca Smith was pleasantly surprised by the event.

"I saw the posters as I was waiting to go to Real Life so I thought, 'why not?'" Smith said. "I love live music and she's better than what I expected."

Smith greatly appreciated that the event was held in the DEC.

"I like how it is right in the quad. People walking through can see it and enjoy it and hopefully join in too," Smith said.

EU advisor Ben Avery spoke about the purpose of this event.

"It gives students on and off campus a reason to come enjoy the performances, one another's company and add value to their experience here at Ferris outside the

classroom," Avery said.

EU is hoping that this event is just the start to a new era of great, accessible events.

"I think that post COVID this is a rejuvenation of sorts, and going back to all the great things that this campus' programming board has provided in the past," Avery said.

Those who want to hear more from Frihauf they can find her on Twitter, Instagram and Spotify under her first and last name.

EU shows no sign of slowing down, hosting two events this week with a comedian and a beat boxer on the 8th and 9th, respectively. They may even book Frihauf again, to which she responded, "I would love to come back to Ferris if you guys would have me."

## MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

Last week, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer appointed new members to vacant slots on six university leadership boards, including Ferris' board of trustees.

Mlive reports that the appointment will likely be approved by the Democratic state senate.

Michael Fisher of Lansing is a Ferris alumnus and associate general counsel for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan. Filling Rupesh Srivastava's expired slot, Fisher is set to serve on Ferris' BOT through Dec. 31, 2030.

Michael Ryan of Big Rapids retired in 2017 after a 40-year career at Ferris. Ryan was a professor of biology and served as president of the Ferris Faculty Association. He was also a member of the Michigan Education Association Board of Trustees, the Michigan Association for Higher Education Board of Directors and multiple Ferris committees, according to Ferris news.

This is not Ryan's first bid at filling a slot on Ferris' BOT. In April 2022, the then Republican-controlled state senate blocked Ryan's appointment. Sen. Aric Nesbitt, R-Lawton, expressed that Ryan has a "long history of a combative relationship" with the BOT. According to Mlive, Senate Democrats criticized claims that Whitmer had chosen unqualified appointees last year.

If approved, Ryan's term in the BOT will expire in December 2026.

The third BOT candidate is Vivian TerMaat of Ada. Ada is the chief executive officer for Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore in Grand Rapids. Ferris news describes TerMaat as "certified fundraising executive," serving in the Grand Rapids Economic Club, the Association of Fundraising Executives, Inforum West Michigan, the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce and the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Additional information and coverage on Ferris' BOT candidates will be included in future editions of the Torch.

## GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the suspected Chinese spy balloon spotted over South Carolina was shot down by US military forces.

US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said in a statement that President Biden authorized the downing of the balloon on Wednesday. Biden advised that action was taken "as soon as the mission could be accomplished without undue risk to American lives under the balloon's path."

NPR reports that Biden complimented the aviators who waited until the balloon was over sea on the coast of Myrtle Beach rather than over land, where risk of civilian endangerment was greater.

The Federal Aviation Administration announced via Twitter that departures and arrivals to three East Coast airports would be paused "to support the Department of Defense in a national security effort." These flights resumed as normal shortly after 3 p.m.

While the action was met with generally high praise, some Conservative members of Congress criticized the President for his latency.

"The balloon should have been shot down before it crossed the continental United States, not after," Sen. Tim Scott, R-SC said

via Twitter.

"This was a dereliction of Biden's duty, and let's hope the American people don't pay a price."

This echoed a similar statement tweeted by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Friday.

"From flying balloons to open borders, Biden has no regard for our national security and sovereignty," Abbott Tweeted.

Before the balloon was taken down, South Carolina's York County Sheriff's Office advised citizens against taking the matter into their one hands.

"Don't try to shoot it!!" the office tweeted. "Your rifle rounds WILL NOT reach it..."

While the Pentagon stated that the balloon was used for surveillance, the Chinese government that it was a "civilian unmanned ship" used strictly for meteorological research. China's foreign ministry sees the US's attack as an "obvious overreaction and a serious violation of international practice."

# One Month In

## SGA's new president and vice president set their sights on spring

Ember St. Amour  
News Reporter

While settling into new leadership, members of the Student Government Association are hopeful for successful spring events.

Medical laboratory science junior Cassidy Engels took over the position and has been working with the rest of SGA to create a more welcoming environment for students to attend. The SGA has also been focused on planning upcoming student activities, including the annual Big Event.

Engels is excited with the progress SGA has made since she began the position in January. She expressed goals that she had in mind for the SGA from when she first transitioned to president and has updated how they are going. She also expressed that she is looking forward to the events that SGA has begun to prepare for later on this semester.

"I think that we are making tremendous leaps and jumps towards building our foundation and reestablishing our goals," Engels said. "We're gonna have a really successful Big Event [and] kickoff, and we haven't had a kickoff like this ever before."

SGA is focused on a few events that will take place in April. One of these events is the kickoff, which according to Engels, will take place in the North Quad. While they are still in the planning process for the event, Engels explained they have some of the activities figured out.

"The cookout will be free, but [not] the fundraising for Hope House," Engels said. "Maybe some of the activities will cost a little bit, but all goes to a good cause."

Hope House is a free clinic in Big Rapids that helps offer services to those who may not have insurance and need to be treated.

In addition to the kickoff, SGA is also holding the Big Event. Engels explained how the Big Event helps students get involved in the community.

"Big Event is Ferris' annual student ran philanthropy event," Engels said. "It's one of a kind and also the largest in the state, in that our campus gives back to the community through an act of service, such as yard work, raking, gardening, that type of thing."

According to Engels, the sign up for anyone interested in Big Event will be posted on Bulldog connect soon. More information about both events will also be there when the events are closer.

Medical laboratory science sophomore Allison Leslie has been with SGA since the fall of 2021. Leslie started out as a general member, representing her sorority. She now holds the position of administrative assistant of SGA. Some of her responsibilities include overseeing the company email as well as answering the phones. Leslie explained how things have been going since Engels took over as president last month.

"It's definitely been a little bit of an adjustment, just because we don't usually do this transition mid-year," Leslie said. "But Cassidy has done an excellent job of transitioning in and getting things on the roll. We're working really hard on the Big Event and the big kickoff, and I think she's done a really good job so far."

Applied math and computer science junior Dylan Andrews has been working with SGA since last semester. When Engels transitioned to president, Andrews took over Engels' previous position of vice president. He explained his optimism about how the future of SGA will be beneficial to the student body.

"This is a big turnaround," Andrews said. "And hopefully we're going to eventually do what we can to start bringing back the best of what we can and student life and hopefully, we'll grow substantially enough to where you know, we'll be the biggest voice of the students again."

Engels expressed her goal of increasing meeting attendance when she was first given the position of president. This is still one of Engels' goals and she continues to talk about her hope for the attendance to grow. She explained that she encourages anyone interested to attend the meetings. Engels also encourages RSOs to have at least one member attend the meetings and be a student government representative for their RSO.

The SGA meets in the founder's room in the David L. Eisler Center every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Students are welcome to attend and hear about campus events and updates, as well as voice any concerns they may have.

# ON THE RECORD

A roundup of this weeks crime at Ferris State University

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

## NORTH HALL NUISANCE

Feb. 1, 7:55 p.m. - Two former roommates in North Hall were reportedly harassing each other via social media. After the matter was brought to a police officer, the two were advised to stop.

## HANDICAP SPOT HOLLERING

Feb. 1, 9-10 a.m. - A verbal altercation erupted in Robin Court when one student allegedly took a photo of another's car parked in a handicap spot. The case was forwarded to Housing, and the students were advised to maintain no contact.

## ANOTHER WEEK, ANOTHER MIP

Jan. 30, 9:15 p.m. - Officers responded to a student in Merrill Hall who was in possession of marijuana and vape pens as a minor. The student was given a ticket before the case was forwarded to Housing and Academic Affairs.

## KEY-ING CARS AT QUAD CAFE

Jan. 30, 6 a.m. - One student reported that their vehicle was keyed while parked outside the Quad Café. With no cameras placed in the area, the case was closed due to a lack of leads.

CELEBRATING **50 YEARS** OF FLAVOR!

## MIX & MATCH

FEATURING NEW! **NO-DOUGH BOWLS™**  
Crustless pizza baked in a bowl with your choice of 3 toppings

**\$6.99 EACH**

ORDER ONLINE USE CODE: CHOOSE2

**CHOOSE ANY 2:**

- NEW! 3-Topping No-Dough Bowl\*
- Medium 1-Topping Pizza
- Any Reg. Howie Bread\* or 3 Cheeser Howie Bread\*
- Pepsi® 20 oz. 4-Pack
- Any Reg. Oven-Baked Sub
- Any Reg. Salad
- Howie Cookie™

\*Additional charges may apply for Stuffed, 3 Cheeser or Deep Dish 3 Cheeser Howie Bread

**FLAVOR YOUR CRUST FOR FREE**

**HOWIE DEALS**  
STARTING AT **\$6.99**

Go to [HungryHowies.com/locations](http://HungryHowies.com/locations) to find deals at your local store

**\$15.99 ANY LG. SPECIALTY PIZZA**  
ANY LG. ORIGINAL ROUND SPECIALTY PIZZA

**\$25.99 LG. FAMILY COMBO**  
LG. 3 TOPPING 8 LG. & TOPPING ORIGINAL ROUND PIZZAS

**\$11.99 PEPPERONI DUO™**  
LG. PIZZA WITH NEW CLASSIC CUPPED PEPPERONI™ AND REGULAR PEPPERONI

**\$25.99 FAMILY DEAL**  
3 LG. 3 TOPPING ORIGINAL ROUND PIZZAS & HOWIE BREAD™

**Hungry Howie's**  
FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA

**BIG RAPIDS**  
103 S. State St.  
(231) 796-8000  
Sun-Thu 11am-10pm  
Fri & Sat 11am - 12am

**CRIMES ON CAMPUS CAN BE REPORTED TO DPS AT - 231-591-5000 -**

# Bringing back the band?



FSC MARCHING  
Inaugural Parade - January, 1973

Photo provided by Ferris Archives

With a chance of Ferris' marching band returning, alumni reflect on their performance in President Nixon's 1973 Inaugural Parade.

## A familiar sound may be returning to campus after many years

**Meghan Hartley**  
News Reporter

Nearly seven decades after its introduction, the infamous sound of synchronized feet stomping and storytelling music is likely to return to campus as the Ferris State Marching Band.

Since the end of last semester, there has been a rumor that the marching band will soon be returning to the music department, giving students more of an opportunity to be involved in music.

Director of Instrumental Concert Ensembles Richard Cohen is currently working on the feasibility of the marching band returning as there are multiple factors to be considered.

"Right now, no decision has been made yet as to whether this is going to happen or not," Cohen said. "There will be a period of research and inquiry to determine its feasibility that will extend into the next school year."

One factor that must be decided on first is the future of the West Central Chamber Orchestra. Last semester, Associate Professor of Music Dale Skornia, who is currently the director of the WCCO, announced his retirement.

According to Skornia, Cohen must find a replacement director for the WCCO next year, and potentially become the new director of the marching band. The original hope was that Skornia would take over the

position.

While the director and ensemble are still being determined, both Cohen and Skornia are confident they will find the right person to carry on the marching band's legacy.

The marching band had many accomplishments since they started in 1955, including performing at President Richard Nixon's Presidential Inauguration Parade in 1973. Debra Jacks was a member of the marching band from 1972 until her graduation in 1975, and was able to experience playing in the parade her first year at Ferris.

"I think the presidential inauguration was a once in a lifetime experience," Jacks said. "We sold candy bars in order to pay for part of our own ways, and then the community and the university came up with the rest of the money. To think about putting 100 to 152 kids on a charter plane from Western Michigan, mostly to go and represent Michigan in a presidential inauguration. I was a freshman, I could not imagine that this was going to be my university experience."

Jacks also mentioned how the band played in celebration of Highway 131 opening. The band also had the opportunity to perform at a Detroit Lions game every year. Jacks says these special, once in a lifetime opportunities happened because of their director William Root.

Root became the marching band director in the 1970's and was known as

"Uncle Bill" to band members. Jacks says Root was much more than just a director, he was a friend.

Tim Linehan, who was also a part of the marching band from 1971 to his graduation in 1975, says Root would help students navigate scheduling as everything was done by paper at the time.

"He was super about helping us rearrange our schedules so that we could participate in the music program," Linehan said. "If we had trouble getting our classes arranged, he'd go to bat for us to help make sure that we could get into the sections."

Jacks and Linehan said the band grew into a community where they could enjoy playing music together, and it was because of the tone set by Root.

"It was also an interesting time period because it was post Vietnam War," Linehan said. "There were a lot of guys that were coming through the school and through bands, and this was kind of like their chance to unwind... it was also '71, only three years after the riots in Detroit. There was some, at least on the campus, a little bit of some tension still left over from that. The marching band was a safe space, where people could go and hang out. I could go hang out with a bunch of people that were like minded... we didn't have any of the pressures of schoolwork and that sort of stuff there."

Unfortunately, after 1987 there is little

information about the marching band that once made a big impact on the students and the community. With the potential of the marching band returning, it has brought hope back to alumni and students of previous marching bands.

Medical laboratory science sophomore Mary Hobart said having the marching band return would be great. She was in marching band during high school and said it would be nice to carry on playing in college. Hobart said she likes the sense of camaraderie the most in a marching band, upper and underclassmen talking and sharing advice and the feeling of working harder rather than just getting together and playing the music.

"It would actually be really nice, I know a lot of Ferris' things are community based," Hobart said. "I wonder if they are bringing it back... Something already nice about community bands is getting to interact with all these different age groups of people. But even if it were just various students, getting that underclassmen upperclassmen connection can be really helpful in just kind of figuring out how this whole college thing works."

If the marching band makes a return to the university is still in the works. Whatever the final decision may be, the Ferris' marching band will continue to have a unique history.

## MASQUERADE

Continued from page 1

its infancy, Hernandez called planning the Winter Ball a "wonderful challenge."

"It's something new to us, but everyone we worked with was so wonderful, and we were just glad that we were able to get to where we needed to," Hernandez said.

Television and digital media production junior Derk Portenga said the PBR organizers have been "nothing but amazing to this community and very nice." As a student worker and volunteer for the LGBTQ+ Resource Center, Portenga appreciates the passion that the organizers show while planning events.

"[The Winter Ball] could be a very easy, LGBTQ+, friendly event where you don't

have to worry about sticking to the gender norms when it comes to dress codes," Portenga said.

Guests at the Winter Ball will be served a full dinner with buttered egg noodles, California blend vegetables and homemade rolls. Protein options include mushroom beef tips, honey glazed chicken breast and citrus pepper salmon. There is also a vegan-friendly option available on

request. The ball's snack menu features pita chips and vegetables with onion dip, assorted cookies and a rainbow yellow cake.

Attendees are welcomed but not required to dress for the masquerade-themed occasion.

Visit Eventbrite to pre-order tickets and find more information on Friday night's ball.

# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Welcoming back the Festival of the Arts

A brief history and summary



Photo by: Harmony Goodman | Freelance Reporter

Tumbao Bravo performs at opening night in front of Joey Salamon's artwork.

**Harmony Goodman**  
Freelance Reporter

February begins the Festival of the Arts, a festival that brings together both the Big Rapids and Ferris communities.

During the month of February, Big Rapids focuses on bringing art workshops and various events to town. When the festival was introduced, it was hosted on and off throughout the '70s and '80s. Eventually, the festival lost its momentum, and it wasn't reintroduced until 2007.

Originally the festival was designed for the Ferris campus. The festival was popular with those around campus, but it didn't reach the community like it does today. Due to an economic downturn in the '90s, the festival went away.

Bruce Dilg, a retired Ferris architecture professor, was the one to start the process of putting the festival back together. After noticing the community didn't have the relationship most college towns have, Dilg proposed bringing the festival back for the Big Rapids and Ferris communities in the month of February. This idea was shot down by the board because they thought that it seemed impossible.

"Everybody said, 'we can't do that, it's too big, it won't work,'" Dilg said.

After the idea was rejected, Dilg knew

he had to get more people on board. He reached out to Dr. Scott Cohen, Ferris' Chair of the Department of Humanities. Together they were able to represent Ferris.

Dilg continued by reaching out to Mark Gifford, the current city manager, Ed Mallet, the artistic director of Tuba Bach, and Phil Donahue, the old Ferris director of music, who was involved in the original festival to represent the community.

From there, Dilg reintroduced his idea. After listening to what he had to say, the group decided they could make the festival happen.

"By February we had scheduled about sixty different events every day of the month in February," Dilg said. "We had raised \$65,000, a very generous amount, of which came from Dr. Eisler, who was just monumental in the success

of the festival."

The rest of the money was raised from the Big Rapids community. Dilg went door-to-door around Big Rapids and asked for donations, believing that the return of the

festival would be enough to give back to the community.

Since 2007, the festival has continued to bring together Ferris and the town,

**FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS** | see page 6

# DO NOT SCAN THIS...

UNLESS YOU WANT TO JOIN A  
FUN TEAM OF COMMERCIAL  
CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS.

**CD BARNES  
CONSTRUCTION**



### FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Continued from page 5

besides its brief pause during the pandemic. Since then, it has provided a lot for those living in Big Rapids or visiting in February.

“During the month of February, nobody has the excuse that there’s nothing to do in Big Rapids,” Cohen said. “Because every day there are lots of things to do – almost all free.”

The festival focuses on bringing a variety of art for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to the board’s connections, artists from all over are brought to share their work and knowledge at the festival. The overall goal

of the Festival of the Arts is to provide the community with a place to go and things to enjoy during the height of winter.

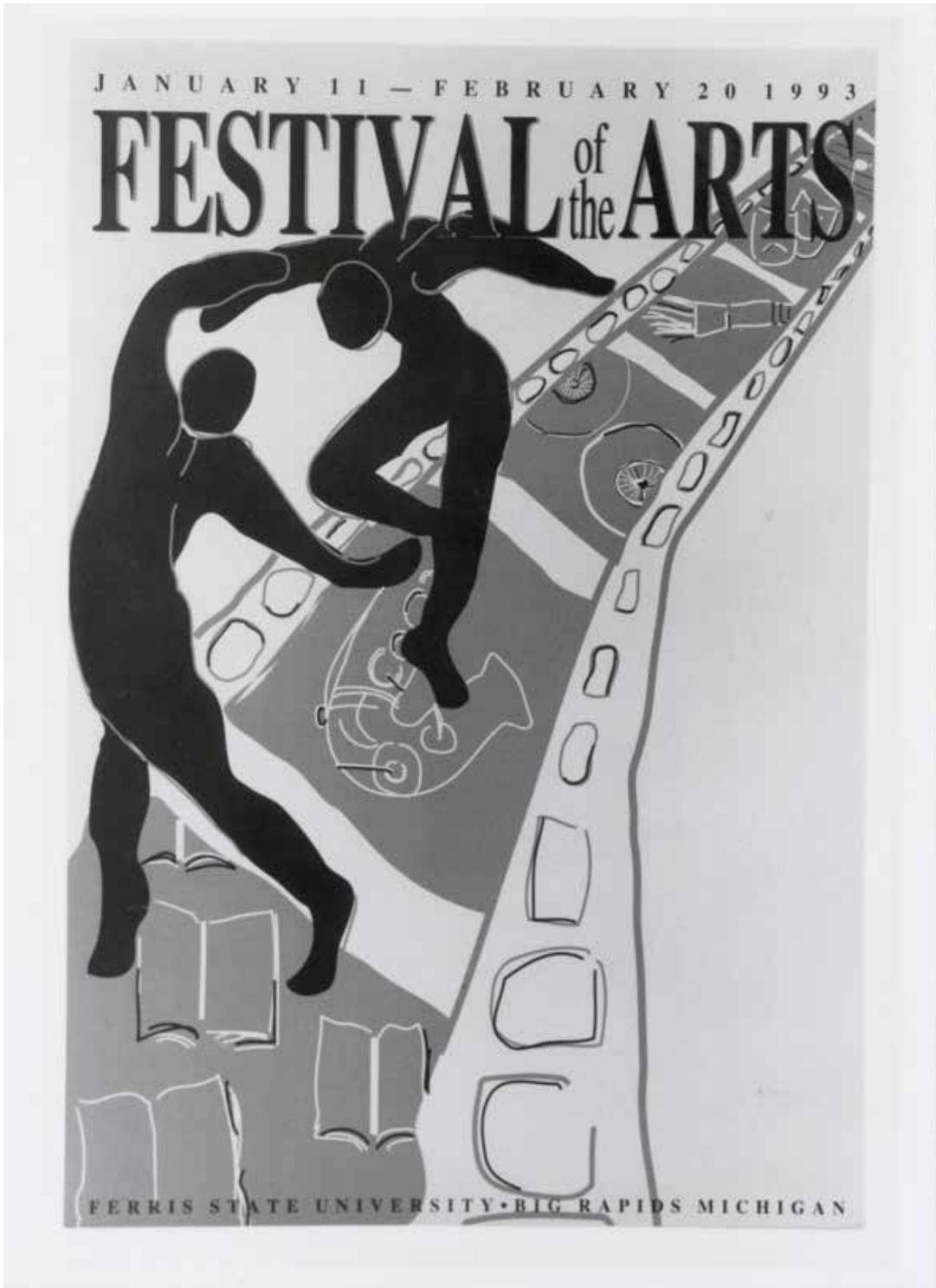
During the month, there are different kinds of events, such as concerts, do-it-yourself workshops and artwork demonstrations. The board likes to add events that are related to the arts in any form, whether it be an open mic night at Crankers Restaurant and Brewery or a school jazz band concert.

“Make a goal to get out during these winter doldrums and try to brighten up your life with some kind of involvement with the arts,” Cohen said. “Any interaction with the arts is an opportunity to enrich your soul and your life.”



Photo provided by: Ferris Archives

An old vocal performance at the original festival in the ‘90s



A Festival of Arts poster from the ‘90s.

Photo provided by: Ferris Archives



Photo by: Harmony Goodman | Freelance Reporter

President Bill Pink speaks at the Festival of the Arts' opening event.



# EIC WANTED

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF POSITION:

We seek an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor-In-Chief position during the 2023 – 2024 school year. Candidates must show proficient writing skills, possess excellent leadership, and manage to work throughout the school year.

Contact for

submission details



Noah Kurkjian

→ [kurkjin@ferris.edu](mailto:kurkjin@ferris.edu)

# Black History Month

**Kylah Robinson**  
Culture Reporter

In honor of Black History Month, there are many Ferris events where attendees can celebrate, support and learn more about this month and its importance.

### Image Awards

This event is hosted by the Black Leaders Aspiring for Critical Knowledge registered student organization. The purpose of the Image Awards is to give overlooked minority students and faculty members the recognition that they deserve on campus.

Rick Bradley, the president of BLACK and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc, wanted to bring back this annual event since they were not able to host this event last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Now that restrictions have lessened, the event is back up and running this month.

“Before COVID, the [Image Awards] was something to bring the campus together... It’s important because a lot of people go unnoticed as leaders and people that inspire others,” Bradley said.

### Black Leadership at Ferris: Designed with you in mind

The Office of Multicultural Student Services is hosting a panel where Black faculty and staff that can share their experiences as Black leaders and the roads that led them to Ferris.

Assistant Director of the OMSS Darnell Lewis wants students to attend this event so they can hear diverse perspectives and relate to them.

“Our current generation of Black leaders can give them words of advice so they can go on to do great things as Black leaders in their future endeavors,” Lewis said.

### Being Black at Ferris with the FSU Black Alumni Association

Also hosted by OMSS, this end-of-the-month event is a group discussion of what it means to be Black on campus for faculty. This event is an authentic conversation between the Black Alumni Association and Black students on campus to talk about their differences, similarities and their experiences as Black individuals in a predominately white institution and town.

“How was it for them as alumni, and even alumni from different decades? What are some challenges, pros and cons of being a Black student?” Lewis said. “Those are some of the conversations we will be having.”

### Hidden Figures of Oppression

The month of February celebrates historical, influential African Americans, and this event highlights them. The historical figures that will be featured are less well known, and the goal is to recognize what is taught in the textbooks about African American history compared to the actuality of their history.

### Kyla Jenée Lacey

Kyla Jenée Lacey is a writer, performer and visual artist. She has been to over 300 colleges in 40 states where she has performed spoken word. She’s known for “irreverent and biting humor, as well as her social knowledge and perspective,” and her work has received tens of millions of views.

“We hope our campus community walks away from the Kyla show with a deeper appreciation for cultural differences and similarities and an understanding of the importance for inclusive and equitable communities,” pre-pharmacy senior and Entertainment Unlimited’s Vice President of Internal Affairs Bhuvan Mathur said.

Culture Editor Giuliana Denicolo contributed to the writing and reporting of this article.

**11<sup>TH</sup>**  
**IMAGE AWARDS**  
WILLIAMS AUDITORIUM | 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**HIDDEN FIGURES OF OPPRESSION**  
DEC 209 | 5:00 PM – 10:00 PM

**21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**BLACK FERRIS LEADERSHIP: DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND**  
DEC BALROOM A | 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

**23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**BEING BLACK @ FERRIS**  
OMSS FLITE SUITE 159 | 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

**28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**KYLA JENÉE LACEY**  
DEC BALROOM A | 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Graphic By: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager



**READ A PAPER EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**-OR-**

**READ ARTICLES ONLINE AT**  
[WWW.FSUTORCH.COM](http://WWW.FSUTORCH.COM)

**FERRIS STATE STUDENT DISCOUNT**

**BIG RAPIDS TAX SERVICES**



**\$99 FLAT FEE**

**INCLUDES**

**ALL FEDERAL,**

**STATE & LOCAL**

**TAX RETURNS**



**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY: 231-250-0466**

**13152 NEW MILLPOND RD.**

**BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307**

**BIGRAPIDSTAXSERVICE.COM**

# Opinions

Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

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

Our Location:  
Arts and Science Commons 1016  
820 Campus Drive  
Ferris State University  
Big Rapids, MI 49307

The Ferris State Torch welcomes comments on topics of interest to the general readership. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and The Torch reserves the right to edit for length. Letters will not be edited for grammar, punctuation or spelling. The Torch will not print letters deemed to be libelous or obscene. All letters must be signed by their authors and include his or her phone number.

Unsigned editorials appearing on this page are the opinion of The Torch and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the university's administration, faculty or staff. Signed columns represent the opinion of the writer. Inquiries regarding editorial content should be directed to the Editor in Chief at (231) 591-5978.

To advertise with the Torch, contact Julie Wiersma at the Pioneer Group at (231) 592-8373 or Julie.Wiersma@hearst.com

Student media retain the same rights, responsibilities, privileges and protections afforded by the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution and under applicable state laws.

The Torch and fsutorch.com, the student newspaper and its accompanying online version focused on Ferris State University, are public forums for student expression. Student editors have the authority and responsibility to make all content decisions without censorship or advanced approval for both the print and online editions of the student newspapers.

## EDITORS COLUMN: *Netflix's alienation of the college student*

Noah Kurkjan  
Editor-In-Chief

Netflix came for the college student last week to crack down on password sharing. In what they now claim to be a mistaken update to their US support articles, the streaming giant suggested that they would be implementing strict rules regarding the habit, limiting their service to one account per physical household after once endorsing the practice publicly.

Bottom line is, Netflix doesn't like that you're using your parent's account and wants you to pay for your own. To that I say, Netflix, you have severely overestimated your viewers' willingness not to use their accounts to their fullest potential. With a single-screen, standard definition, ad-supported plan still costing \$6.99 a month, it's no wonder people would rather share an account at \$5 a screen with no ads and 4K streaming.

For the catalog they currently sport, you will not catch me spending more to get less from Netflix. The Torch readership, and the internet in general, are behind me in this opinion too.

86% of surveyed Torch readers suggested they would not be resubscribing if they were kicked off an account they share.

The internet exploded over this as well, with terms like "Netflix password sharing" and "#netflixisoverparty" still receiving thousands of mentions in tweets per hour several days after the article first went live. From my long scroll through these posts, I'd guess Netflix had one of the biggest subscription losses in a single week they'd ever seen, as consumers didn't wait for their streaming fate. They decided it themselves.

The most egregious part of this entire situation is that it seems they would still have the audacity to limit the number of screens per account if they implemented this change. There was no mention in this article of the evolution of this element of the plan whatsoever. Even when everyone in my family is home, we can max out a four-screen plan simply trying to go to bed. This decision reads as an incredibly short-sighted one.

First, hordes of users — from college students, to nomads, to members of the military and

those without WiFi — would lose access to the possibility of Netflix. Not only would they have to get their own account, but these strict rules make it so these people could not feasibly have an account. These changes would require you to connect your device and watch Netflix on it on your home WiFi network every 31 days, something that is tough for these groups of people.

Second, the catalog. The fact of the matter is Netflix is no longer the king of streaming. Losing ABC shows to Hulu, NBC shows to Peacock and oodles and oodles of other smash hits to the ever-expanding streaming landscape, stacking up to the others is a fight they'll lose. For the limited catalog they still hold, and for the stark few originals I care about, a free trial month once a year should do fine.

Finally, from a business standpoint, I'm still lost on how this is going to increase revenue or help the business at all. If loads of people can no longer share their fancy \$19.99 a month package, what draw will they have to pay that premium if they can't use it to its fullest extent? Sure, some of the loss from downgrades will

be made up with new accounts, but people cutting their plans totals to the tune of 30-50% is going to be a lot of ground to cover. Making content harder to access is going to put a dark cloud over all of your original content. People will have less incentive to watch it if the cost of entry, both literally and figuratively, is too high.

While we may not see this yet in the US, according to what a spokesperson for Netflix told The Streamable, if these changes do go into effect, I'll no longer be a Netflix consumer.

"For a brief time yesterday, a help center article containing information that is only applicable to Chile, Costa Rica and Peru went live in other countries. We have since updated it," the spokesperson said.

I can't say I feel as though this was the type of accident they were trying to frame it as. Accidentally released it too early, sure, but I don't believe this wasn't intended for the US whatsoever. Grab an app like JustWatch and track where else your favorites stream, just in case a great password crackdown leaves you out in the cold.

### Torch Staff

**Editor in Chief**  
Noah Kurkjan  
(231) 999 1405  
kurkjin@ferris.edu

**Production Manager**  
Sienna Parmelee

**News Editor**  
Jessica Oakes

**Culture Editor**  
Giuliana Denicolo

**Sports Editor**  
Brody Keiser

**Opinions Editor**  
Dylan Rider

**Multimedia Editor**  
Marissa Russell

**Web Editor**  
Lucas Gill

**Web Manager**  
Charles Reister

**Podcast Manager**  
Dylan Rider

**Visual Content**  
Mariana Searl  
Maddie Epps  
Jordan Wilson

**Special Editions Editor**  
Karissa Lange

#### Reporters

Meghan Hartley  
Jonathon Hart  
Nolan Harris  
Ember St. Amour  
Kylah Robinson  
Brandon Wirth  
Joseph Nagy  
Jeffery Walker

#### Freelance Reporters

Charlie Buckel  
Dylan Rider  
Harmony Goodman  
Jasmine Baar

#### Freelance Photographers

George Lawless  
Evan Hibbard

#### Managing Copy Editor

Alyssa Myers

**Copy Editors**  
Faith Gleasure  
Marlow Losey

#### Distributors

Dayna Gesinski  
Ready For Life

#### Advisor

Garrett Stack  
(231) 591-5869  
GarrettStack@ferris.edu



Marlow Losey, Copy Editor

# Saying yes while stressed



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

## Is being engaged in college really a good choice?

Faith Gleasure  
Copy Editor

The month is September, the weather is warm and the timing? Perfect. At least that's what I thought when the love of my life got down on one knee and asked me to spend the rest of my life with him.

We're still both in college, we have large amounts of debt and we don't exactly know what we're doing with our life once we graduate. So was getting engaged really the best thing for us to do? Here's what I think.

Getting engaged is truly one of the most special times of your life. Your world stops, and you immediately start thinking about your future life with this person. You take cute pictures, obsess over the sparkliness of the ring and post the big announcement on Facebook. After that, you immediately start thinking about planning.

Planning a wedding is a huge task to take on. There's finding the right venue, creating the guest list, coordinating

seating charts, deciding on decorations, finding the right dress, asking friends and family to be bridesmaids and groomsmen and so, so much more.

For someone working a full time job, it can still be a lot. So why is it that I thought adding planning my wedding on top of my 18 credit, senior year semester would be a good idea? I have no idea, but here I am.

I'm not going to lie, it's very stressful. We're both trying to graduate and secure jobs, work to cover our bills and get our homework in on time. There are a lot of nights where I'm up until 2 a.m. either finishing homework or figuring out wedding stuff.

It's a lot, and without my planner and him by my side, I wouldn't be able to keep track of everything. With that, I can't say I would change anything, though. I absolutely love knowing that

the person I want to marry and spend my life with is mine and mine only. Being able to come home from class and have him and our dog waiting for me, knowing that this is how it'll be soon, I wouldn't change that for the world.

However, I don't think it's for everyone. Getting engaged isn't about how old you are or how long you've been with someone, it's about maturity. Have you and your significant other talked enough about the hard topics? Do your plans align? Can you truly see yourself marrying this person?

If you can answer yes to those questions, then ask yourself this next question. Can I handle the added stress of wedding planning on top of my classes?

If you believe you can, then go for it. There's nothing wrong with getting engaged in college and being excited about it. From my perspective, though, the added stress probably isn't worth it. If you're okay with waiting a few more months or a year, then wait. Save yourself the long nights and all the worrying. Your partner won't be going anywhere while you do.

**VOTE TODAY FOR THE FSU ATHLETES OF THE WEEK!**

The Ferris State Torch **PIONEER**

**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

SPONSORED BY

**the Rapids** **CD BARNES CONSTRUCTION** **Hungry Howie's**

**MID MICHIGAN COLLEGE** **Lucky's** **CRANKER'S** **Big Rapids**

**FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA**

**VISIT BIGRAPIDSNEWS.COM/FSUATHLETESOFTHEWEEK**  
TO VOTE ON THE UPCOMING WEEKS FOR YOUR FAVORITE FSU NOMINATED ATHLETE.

**LET ME WORK FOR YOU....**

communication, STRATEGY, LEARN, Creation, PLANNING, PROCESS, GOALS, Leadership, POWER, IDEAS, MARKETING, Target, Objectives, BUSINESS, analysis, IDEAS, Achieve, PLANNING, SOLUTION, COACHING, Vision, teamwork, DEVELOPMENT, SUCCESS, Create, ANALYSIS, COACHING, Target, teamwork, SOLUTION, STRATEGY, communication, PLANNING

**HEARST** | MIDWEST MEDIA GROUP

**TOGETHER WE WILL GET RESULTS**  
Contact Julie Wiersma:  
Julie.wiersma@hearst.com • 231.592.8373

# Sports

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

## Football reloads with full recruiting class



Photo by: Brandon Wirth | Sports Reporter

Tony Annese addresses the media as he talks about the incoming recruits during National Signing Day. The Bulldogs have a class of 36 players.

### Bulldogs sign 36 prep stars from four different states

**Brandon Wirth**  
Sports Reporter

46 days after securing a second straight national championship, head coach Tony Annese and the coaching staff announced the 2023 recruiting class at the National Signing Day press conference last Wednesday.

The conference was held in the Ewingleben Sports Complex, where it was announced that the Bulldogs added 24 prep stars from the state of Michigan, ten signees from Florida, one from Ohio and one from Illinois to this year's group.

This year's group of 36 additions almost doubled the 22 recruits from last year's signing day. It's the largest number of recruits since Ferris brought in 38 signees before the eventually cancelled 2020 campaign.

"One of the reasons guys choose us is because we are really authentic," Annese said. "Some of the people out there manipulate young men into choosing the wrong school and then don't have any retention. We have great retention here, and we are proud of that."

Within the number of signees, more than half of this year's class are slated to start on the defensive side of the ball. Out of the 20 players, nine of them are defensive backs, five are linebackers and five are defensive linemen.

On the other side of the ball, 16 new Bulldogs will be trying to help the nation's 18th-ranked scoring offense from last season. Wide receivers led the majority with seven recruits at the position, followed by three offensive linemen, three quarterbacks, two running backs and one tight end.

When it comes to specialists, Ferris didn't sign a kicker or a punter in this year's class. This is the first time this has happened since 2020.

"[We] get a late start, and some teams are done the second week of November," Annese said. "That's a challenge, but we figure it out. There are people out there bragging about how good we're going to be."

According to Great Lakes State Football on Twitter, the Bulldogs signed the second largest number of athletes in the state for the Division II level. Ferris is only trailing behind Davenport, who had 55 players commit to the program. Ferris brought in more recruits than Saginaw Valley State (35), Grand Valley State (32), Michigan Tech (30), Hillsdale (22), Northwood (20), Wayne State (20) and Northern Michigan (13).

The Bulldogs' ten sunshine state signees also tied Davenport in the respective category and tied Michigan Tech and Grand Valley State with 24 players from Michigan, ranking third behind Saginaw Valley's 30 and Davenport's 34.

When it came to describing the class, Annese mentioned something that rings in common with many of his classes from the past: a winning pedigree.

"Most of them are from really highly successful programs, and that's critically important," Annese said. "That ultimately is the thing that makes us great."

The Bulldogs will likely unveil their 2023 official schedule sometime between March and April. Ferris will begin the pre-season this spring with hopes of capturing a fourth GLIAC title in the last five years and a third consecutive national championship.

### SCORECARD

#### Hockey

Feb. 3 - Ferris 2, Bowling Green 1

Feb. 4 - Ferris 4, Bowling Green 4, Ferris wins shootout

#### Men's Basketball

Feb. 2 - Wisconsin-Parkside 86, Ferris 66

Feb. 4 - Ferris 85, Purdue-Northwest 75

#### Women's Basketball

Feb. 2 - Wisconsin-Parkside 79, Ferris 66

Feb. 4 - Ferris 74, Purdue-Northwest 68

# Women's tennis splits

## Bulldogs beat defending GLIAC champs, lose first match of season

Jeffery Walker  
Sports Reporter

The Bulldogs beat Northwood University before suffering their first loss of the season against the University of Indianapolis. That brings the Bulldogs to a 3-1 record on the season.

The Bulldogs faced Northwood University on Saturday, Feb. 4, in a tough matchup that saw the Bulldogs come away with a 4-3 victory.

"It's a great turnaround for us," head coach Mark Doren said.

"Last year, we lost 7-0... We're [just] battling through some stuff, and they stuck it to us, but this year we came out strong, and to get a win over the defending GLIAC champions was kind of a huge deal for us, and [it] gave us a lot of momentum going into today, but yesterday was just impressive."

The Bulldogs lost the doubles portion against Northwood University and were down going into the singles matches.

The Bulldog's lone doubles win came from Ana Hernandez and Morgan Waller, as they defeated Northwood University's Rafaella Fulop and Rafaella Platsiota 6-4.

Northwood's Danijela Danilovic and Sophie-Malin Von Dusterlho defeated Sophie Daavettila and Amelia Laverdiere in a closely contested match 7-6.

In the final doubles matchup,

Northwood's Regan Fales and Savannah Matuszewski defeated Kennedy Dumas and Maria Hernandez 6-0.

The Bulldogs got a strong performance in the singles competition to help secure the victory.

Daavettila defeated Platsiota in two sets. The first set was 6-3, and the second set was 6-2.

Waller fell to Fulop in three sets. Fulop won sets one and three 6-3 and 6-3. Waller took set two to force a third set 6-2.

Danilovic defeated Ana Hernandez in three sets. Ana Hernandez took the first set 6-3. Danilovic then took the last two sets 6-2 and 6-4, respectively.

Maria Hernandez defeated Northwood University's Sophie-Malin Von Dusterlho in two sets (6-1 and 6-3).

Dumas defeated Matuszewski in two sets (6-2 and 7-5).

Laverdiere defeated Northwood's Fales in two sets (6-4 and 6-3).

"It's easy to point out some of the ones that finished the match," Doren said. "Kennedy and Amelia [were] the last ones, so they were pretty big. But I would say we were all led off by Sophie, who had a really dominant win in singles."

The Bulldogs lost to the University of Indianapolis on Sunday, Feb. 5, to mark their first loss of the year.

The Bulldog's lone point in

the match came from a doubles competition, as Ana Hernandez and Maria Hernandez defeated the University of Indianapolis' Anna Novikova and Sofia Sharonova 6-2. Then, Daavettila and Laverdiere defeated the University of Indianapolis' Maissane Aik and Maria Fiacan 7-5 to earn the Bulldog point.

The Bulldogs struggled in singles competition, as the University of Indianapolis swept the Bulldogs in four straight matches.

The University of Indianapolis' Novikova defeated Daavettila in three sets (6-2, 6-1 and 6-2).

Aik defeated Waller in two sets (6-4 and 6-2).

The University of Indianapolis' Margarita Andreiuk defeated Ana Hernandez in two sets (6-2 and 6-4). The University of Indianapolis' Maria Fiacan defeated Maria Hernandez in two sets (6-4 and 6-2).

"Yeah, I mean, [I'm] really worried about a letdown match after such a big win yesterday," Doren said. "But we were playing against the top five team in the country, and to win the doubles, which we've never won a doubles point against this specific team."

The Bulldogs will be back in action on Feb. 10, as they take on Hillsdale College on the road. Then, they will travel back home to take on the University of Findlay on Feb. 12 at 11 a.m.



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

Morgan Waller serves during the Bulldogs' victory over Northwood.

# Track and field performs well at Bill Clinger Classic

Joseph Nagy  
Sports Reporter

Even facing off against Division I programs, both Ferris track and field teams fared well at the Bill Clinger Classic in Allendale.

In a meet with over ten schools, including top tier opponents like Valparaiso and Marquette, the Bulldogs were looking to keep the trend of improvement going. It was a tall order, as it meant keeping up with national Division II powerhouse Grand Valley State and a multitude of regionally ranked opponents throughout each event. However, head coach Jared Kelsh's squad was ready to meet the expectations.

Many Bulldogs found themselves in the top ten of their events. Which is a promising showcase of the talent on these teams, especially since they've reached the mid point in the indoor season and heading outdoors is right around the corner.

"We had a very successful meet with multiple athletes running personal best times," Kelsh said.

On the women's side, the Bulldogs found the top of the podium, as Emma Stephayn won

her event in the weight throw (52-7.25). More team members found success in events, such as the 400 and 800 meter dash, with Abigail Winkle placing sixth (58:89) and Danae Feldpausch at ninth place (2:18), respectively. As well as the 4x400 relay team placed sixth with a time of (4:08.52).

In distance, Becci Castillo achieved eighth place in the open mile (5:26.53), improving from last race. Whitney Farrell just missed the top ten with a time of 5:12.9 in the open mile invite. Hannah Brock (5:13.65) and Sydney Kubiak (5:13.81) were right behind Farrell at 12th and 13th place.

For the men, Donis Harris came in with just seconds behind the 6th, 7th and 8th place finishers in the 3,000 meter invite at 4:11.32. Harris is just fractions of a second away from an undisputed record as the fastest man in Ferris Track and Field history.

"Personally, I wasn't the happiest with how I ran last weekend," Harris said. "There's a few mistakes I made that I think cost me some time."

In the 5,000 meter race, Brendan Cairney took eighth place (15:34.05). Other distance

runners showed promises of improvement as well. Dan Hardesty achieved 13th place in the open mile (4:24.52), and Noah Griffith placed 16th (4:25.25) in the same race. Casey Bouman was a slight push from being in the top ten. He took 14th (15:54.35) in the 5,000 meter race.

The Bulldogs showed their feats of strength as well in the field events. Jake Zammita and Garrett Jones finished back to back in the shot put section. Zammita placing sixth (45-7.75) and Jones (41-5.75). In the weight throw invite, Kyle Drouillard placed eighth (48-7.25). In one of the better meets of the indoor season, it brings a sense of encouragement to the athletes, especially against such good schools and competition.

The Bulldogs will return to Allendale on Feb. 10 for the annual Grand Valley State Big Meet, a venue sure to host strong competition from multiple levels of NCAA track and field.

*Editor's Note: Brandon Wirth took the photograph for this story. He is both a sports reporter for the Torch and an athlete for Ferris track and field. He did not contribute to the reporting of this story.*



Photo by: Brandon Wirth | Sports Reporter

Abigail Winkle races during the Bill Clinger Classic in Allendale.

# Men's tennis tops Northwood, falls to Indianapolis

**Dylan Rider**  
*Opinions Editor*

The Bulldogs returned with a weekend split against the Northwood Timberwolves and the Indianapolis Greyhounds.

The #24 ranked Bulldogs (2-1) dominated Northwood (0-2) with a 7-0 win on Saturday before suffering their first loss to #7 ranked Indianapolis (3-0) with a 4-0 loss.

The Bulldogs dominated their doubles matches with the pairings of senior Jan Koupil and junior Benjamin Lortie, sophomore Alessandro Santangelo and freshman Esunge Ndumbe and senior Yannic Mader and freshman Erik Kovacs. All pairings won their matches.

With domination of doubles already in hand, the Bulldogs switched their focus on singles. Once again, the Bulldogs would not be denied, as Koupil, Lortie, Santan-

gelo, Ndumbe, Mader and Kovacs all won their singles matches to secure a 7-0 victory.

Head coach Mark Doren gave his thoughts on the victory.

"The match was what we worked so hard for this offseason," Doren said. "To be able to take on our rival of 40 years, who pushed us to a close 4-3 match last year, and then take it to them for a 7-0 win this weekend. It was fun to watch them have fun out there and play great at the same time."

Doren wasn't the only Bulldog satisfied with the victory. Santangelo said that the team wanted to "demolish" Northwood, saying that the match's energy was "great" and that it was overall a great day.

As for Sunday's match, Santangelo felt that the team was "really confident" going into the matchup with the #7 ranked Greyhounds. This confidence may have been

all for naught, as the Bulldogs suffered a 4-0 defeat.

The Bulldogs were swept in doubles with the same pairings they acquired victory with the previous day. All singles matches were lost or unfinished, as Indianapolis was the first to four points following their doubles match with the Bulldogs.

Doren gave his thoughts on the hard loss on Sunday.

"The score doesn't represent the level of tennis we saw today out of the men's team," Doren said. "All three doubles matches were the most intense tennis I have seen in my five years coaching at Ferris."

Doren believed that there were some great singles matches as well, but the team "just couldn't get over the hump to claim victory."

The Bulldogs men's tennis roster saw some turnover, as three seniors from last

years' team are now gone. In their place come new freshmen additions.

Joining the team this year is Ndumbe, freshman Kacper Pasielak, Erik Kovacs and his brother, Kevin Kovacs.

Doren talked about the difficulties of infusing freshmen into the game.

"Often bringing in freshmen who play a role into the lineup right away can be a tough adjustment," Doren said. "But all our freshmen on both teams have had very experienced junior careers and have come in playing like upperclassmen right away."

Pasielak, who is among those freshmen brought in, also believes that the team has some "pretty good freshmen."

The Bulldogs will split a series both on the road against Hillsdale and then at home against Findlay on Feb. 10 and Feb. 11.

## NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR OUR RENTALS!



Secure your housing for Spring & Fall 2023!

You've never lived like this.

- Less than 1 mile to the Ferris State University campus
- Private bedrooms and bathrooms available
- Hardwood-style flooring
- Academic Success Center with PCs and free printing
- State-of-the-art fitness center with strength equipment and cardio machines
- Wi-Fi hotspots throughout the community



Learn more and apply online today at [AmericanCampus.com/Big-Rapids](https://AmericanCampus.com/Big-Rapids)

Managed by  AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITIES

Amenities are subject to change. Limited time only. See office for details.



Photo by: Evan Hibbard | Freelance Photographer

**Benjamin Lortie takes a backhand shot during Ferris' victory over Northwood.**



CAN'T COME TO A SPORTING EVENT?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED @FSUTORCH