

## Former union president and Ferris alumnus join board of trustees

‘An incredible addition to an already responsive board,’ President Bill Pink said



Photo courtesy of Ferris News

Former biology professor Michael Ryan.

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer appointed three new members to the board of trustees on Feb. 9, welcoming back two familiar Ferris faces.

Ferris news reports that all appointments are subject to consent and approval by the Michigan Senate.

**Michael Ryan**

The first of the new trustees is Dr. Michael Ryan, a former Ferris Faculty Association president who worked as a professor of biological sciences for 40 years. This is his second appointment to the BoT.

Michigan’s republican-majority Senate blocked Ryan’s first appointment in April 2021. Sen. Aric Nesbitt, R-Lawton, raised concerns in 2021 regarding Ryan’s “long history of a combative relationship” with the BoT. Ryan remains undisturbed by the negative comment made about

him on the Senate floor.

“It’s just a political position. I don’t take it personally,” Ryan said.

At the single BoT meeting Ryan attended during his first trusteeship, the board selected Pink as Ferris’ 19th president.

“Even after the Senate did not approve, [Ryan] has still been a person who has regularly reached out to say, ‘How can I be of service?’” Pink said. “I consider him someone who is very focused on this university and how he can help.”

Ryan is confident in the security of his current position on the board. Mlive reports that this year’s appointments are “likely to be approved” by the new democratically-controlled Senate.

Along with serving as the FFA president, he was also a director for both the Michigan Education Association and the Michigan Association for Higher Education. As a first generation graduate, Ryan hopes to use his position to help students with similar backgrounds.

“Ferris was a natural place for me to be,” Ryan said. “I understand what it is to be a first time student. I was, in my extended family, the first one to graduate from college. So I understand those kinds of issues, and I’m concerned about those

issues.”

Throughout his career, Ryan never felt an “urgency” to lead unless he saw a specific need. He recalled stepping up to leadership roles after seeing an open job with nobody to do it. Once there, he tries not to settle.

“As soon as you get a job, your job is to find your replacement,” Ryan said. “[Don’t] hang on to this job and that job like little tokens of some sort.”

Ryan’s is taking over a vacant seat set to expire in Dec. 2026.

**Michael Fisher**

Trustee and Ferris alumnus Michael Fisher holds a bachelor’s degree in environmental biology. Fisher now works as the Associate General Counsel for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan.

“I didn’t have it in my life goals to one day be on the board of trustees for a public university, let alone my alma mater,” Fisher said. “But when you’re asked to serve, particularly if Gov. Whitmer’s office asks you to serve, the answer is yes.”

Fisher felt a strong pull to environmental science as a student. Before practicing

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** | see page 3

## Ferris’ reminder of the bloody past

Ferris’ Shoah Committee presents viewing of ‘Defiance’

**Nolan Harris**  
News Reporter

The Ferris Shoah Committee hosted a viewing of “Defiance” for the Festival of the Arts, featuring a real life story of Jewish resistance fighters during the Holocaust.

The event started with a speech from Dr. Scott Cohen, a Jewish Shoah History Archive committee member, in which he gave context to the movie and shared how his grandparents were a part of the first resistance the movie featured.

“It puts a human face on what actually happens when people’s intolerance and fear of ignorance become blinding,” Cohen said. “It’s not a story that’s black and white, good versus evil... People do bad things while under duress.”

The Shoah Committee hoped this would be an educational experience that emphasizes the human nature of the Holocaust and

provides context that may not have been addressed in previous schooling. The movie tackles potent ethical dilemmas. Does one steal and kill the innocent to feed their family? Does one join the Russians to fight the Nazis or stay in desolate conditions and protect those close to them?

The way the movie portrays these dynamics had a powerful effect on the audience. One audience member remarked on the sheer lack of humanity shown in the movie and how that may help viewers gain a deeper understanding of the problems veterans face after returning home with post traumatic stress disorder.

Dr. Katherine Mallow, director of the Shoah History Archives, added her own expertise.

“That is one of the things that watching testimonies from the Shoah Archive is so clear,” Mallow said. “It’s the impact that traumatic events have on these people’s lives. I’m always so

impressed with people’s ability to heal.”

Finance freshman Levi Tuinstra expressed how the event would stick with him.

“I can’t help but feel a sense of guilt for taking for granted the fact that I wake up never having to worry about food a day in my life,” Tuinstra said. “Someone stated [in the event] there are people who don’t think the Holocaust is true. It’s kinda scary we’re getting to that point... It’s really important to keep it alive to prevent the past from happening again.”

The event reached a wider audience than just the Ferris community. Older Big Rapids citizens and even those from the broader Michigan Jewish community came to the event.

While the event organizers hoped the movie would be educational, they urged the Ferris community to utilize Ferris’ unique access to the Shoah Archive. This catalogue holds over 50,000

testimonies from survivors of genocides throughout the world, including the Holocaust, the Rwandan Genocide and the Rape of Nanjing.

Ferris is one of three colleges

to have unfettered access to this archive, and accessing it is as easy as searching for the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive on the list of databases available on the FLITE website.



Photo by: Nolan Harris | Torch Reporter

**Speaker Dr. Scott Cohen discusses the nuance and history behind the film “Defiance” as a part of the Festival of Fine Arts.**

# News

Jessica Oakes | News Editor | oakesj3@ferris.edu

## Celebrating ‘stars’ at Image Awards



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

The Zeta Rho Deltas present the LaMira King Award during the Image Awards last Saturday evening

**Meghan Hartley**  
News Reporter

The Image Awards returned after five years to honor Black community members in “A Weekend of Stars.”

The Black Leaders Aspiring for Critical Knowledge registered student organization hosted the event in Williams Auditorium on Saturday night. This was Ferris’ 28th year celebrating the Image Awards.

The awards had their start in 1995 with alumna LaMira King, who wanted a way to acknowledge the minority students of Ferris. Although King died in 2007, Detroit radio show host Cash says BLACK was instrumental in containing the legacy King had established.

“[Black] is beautiful, strong, unique, is not just a culture,” Cash said. “It is a state of man, a way of life and a state of mind. It is intentional with the goal of uniting Black people and showing the world what they are capable of, despite where they may come from and what their history is.”

Highlighting Black culture was a staple at the awards, from the heart-pounding music welcoming attendees, to the shouts of anthems. Students performed poems and songs representing the hardships their community has faced over the years.

At the end of many of the performances,

the phrase “they may break one of us, but they can’t break all of us” was shouted out, elevating spirits and creating a more vocal audience.

Dental hygiene senior and president of You Beautiful Black Woman Jamie Maximore says the awards allow students of color to be recognized while they are at Ferris.

“I believe it’s important to have these awards because, going to a primarily white institute, it’s very important to make sure that we are recognized on campus as well,” Maximore said. “I honestly believe that [the awards] has a huge impact because when incoming freshmen come in, it’s very important that they know they have a home away from home.”

Of the 19 awards handed out, six of them went to organizations for exemplifying excellence in their community, making a difference on campus or uplifting their members to strive for greatness. Maximore and YBBW earned the Elijah McCoy Award for being an empowering organization for Black women.

“It honestly means a lot to me,” Maximore said. “It goes to show that what we do here on campus isn’t going unnoticed, it’s getting recognized. It’s definitely a beautiful moment.”

The Image Awards allow organizations to

represent themselves and make a statement with all the work they’ve done. Sigma Gamma Rho, Sigma Lambda Gamma and Alpha Phi Alpha were a few of the organizations present at the awards ceremony.

Social work junior and homecoming ambassador Hazelle Williams says the work these organizations are doing on campus is getting recognized.

“[The awards] mean that what we are doing here is not going unnoticed and that people actually care about what we’re doing,” Williams said. “We’re actually making a difference. That it’s not just to pass the time just to find something new on a Thursday night while we’re here.”

Williams won a couple of awards herself, including the Malcom X award and the Mordeca Johnson underclassmen academic award. Williams contributes her wins to her faith, saying the work was not done by herself.

“Honestly, as a Christian, I know that I’m allowed to be a light for Jesus and point people towards him,” Williams said. “If I’m getting awards for such good things, it’s not because of my work — it’s because of the work that he’s doing through me. It’s just undeniable when I’m just getting so much affirmation.”

Williams was not the only one who thanked her faith for their on-campus

accomplishments. Many award winners thanked God for their influence, including President Bill Pink. Pink won the Thurgood Marshall award for being a leader that can be looked up to. In his acceptance speech, he thanked God for helping him in his work and for others around him to accomplish his goals.

“Everything comes because of someone else helping me out, and if I can identify who the person was, I know that it was my God,” Pink said. “I want to say to you, make sure that we are always acknowledging each other and helping each other because we cannot do any of this on our own. None of it happens alone.”

Pink encouraged attendees to acknowledge those around them, appreciate them and work together to rise together, as no work is done alone. His words spoke to another meaning of the awards, that it takes a community to make change.

The awards presented more than just accomplishments, it brought light on to the RSOs making a difference. While the awards are over, they remind individuals and organizations on campus to continue to do good work, as it is not going unnoticed.



Photo by: Jessica Oakes | News Editor

On Friday morning, students evacuated the DEC following a grill fire at the Quad. All returned safely minutes later.

## ON THE RECORD

A roundup of this weeks crime at Ferris State University

Jessica Oakes  
News Editor

### CLEAN SWEEP

Feb. 9-10, 10 p.m. - 12 a.m. - A North Hall resident left their laundry in a dryer, which was then sent to the lost and found. Other

residents took some of the student’s clothing, but all suspects were identified and later brought the belongings back.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Continued from page 1

law, he interned for the Saginaw Chippewa tribe. At that time, Fisher worked on water quality analysis to scientifically assess the natural world of the reservation.

“It is a tremendous honor to get to serve my tribe,” Fisher said. “Something that motivates me is the phrase ‘be a good ancestor.’”

His interest in the environment and care for the tribe naturally led him to leadership roles. The first public office position Fisher held was a spot on the Isabella County recycling board.

“If you’re involved in environmental science, quickly you realize that you’re also involved in environmental policy,” Fisher said.

Fisher worked with his tribe for six years before leaving to get his Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington D.C. The mentors, challenges and experiences he picked up from Ferris

and his tribe prepared him for this next journey of his career.

“A great leader is defined by somebody who develops others to be their best selves using their innate gifts.”

“If you’re willing to work hard at Ferris, if you have a plan, Ferris provides all the tools for one to succeed,” Fisher said. “[I remember] those days in the FLITE, study-

ing organic chemistry. I went to law school, and I still haven’t encountered anything as difficult as some of those higher-end chemistry courses. So I was prepared for the rest of my academic career.”

To begin his trusteeship, Fisher is focused on listening and learning from his fellow trustees, faculty, students and the president.

Fisher is filling the seat of Trustee Rupesh Srivastava, and his term is set to run through 2030.

**Vivian TerMaat**

Certified fundraising executive Vivian TerMaat, the third and final appointee, is the CEO of Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore.

TerMaat believes that her work with the Girl Scouts “perfectly aligns” with her future work as a trustee. When she was a young girl, TerMaat wanted to grow up to be a combination of Barbara Walters and James Bond.

An educational background in journal-

ism and communication taught TerMaat the listen-first approach, one she insists is an important practice for any successful leader.

“A great leader is defined by somebody who develops others to be their best selves using their innate gifts,” TerMaat said.

TerMaat’s experience in West Michigan includes work on the Grand Rapids Economic Club, the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce and the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She even got to know President Pink while working as the vice president for Wedgwood Christian Services.

After collaborating with and gaining respect for TerMaat, Pink is “excited” to have her on the BoT.

“I know Dr. Pink’s track record,” TerMaat said. “I’m just delighted to be a part of it and to serve and help bring that vision of renewed energy to life.”

TerMaat succeeds Trustee Ana Ramirez-Saenz and will serve on the BoT through 2030.



Photo courtesy of Ferris News

Lansing attorney Michael Fisher.



Photo courtesy of Ferris News

Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore CEO Vivian TerMaat.

**GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE**

**Noah Kurkjian**  
Editor in Chief

A freight train collided with a semi truck on Friday, Feb. 3, in East Palestine, Ohio, leading to a controlled burn to eliminate the safety threat.

The train was carrying multiple cars full of liquid vinyl chloride, a highly combustible substance that could have blown up if not properly evacuated, according to CNN.

The vinyl chloride was released from the train into a drainage trench on Sunday, Feb. 5, when the threat of explosion became high. After the immediate area had been evacuated, the vinyl chloride was burned off.

While regulators on the scene have claimed that the contamination of the spill had been cleared, residents are still hesitant to return to the area, as they are unsure of the long-term affects.

“All of the readings we’ve been recording in the community have been at normal concentrations, normal backgrounds, which you find in almost any community,” James Justice, a representative of the US Environmental Protection Agency, said at a Wednesday briefing, according to CNN.

Experts like Dana Barr, a professor of environmental health at Emory University, discussed the variables.

“The problem they’re facing here is that it’s not just a small amount, and so if they can’t contain what gets into the water or what gets into the soil, they may have this continuous off-gassing of vinyl chloride that has gotten into these areas,” Barr said.

While the main spill has been cleaned, updates on the long-term conditions are still to come.

**KATKE GOLF COURSE**  
FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

**\$10 OFF**  
One Hour  
**Katke's Trackman Golf Simulators**

*Limit 1 coupon per simulator bay, per visit*

**Expires March 31, 2023**

1003 Perry Ave, Big Rapids, MI 49307 · 231.591.3765 · katke@ferris.edu · ferris.edu/katke · @KatkeGolf

Ferris State University is an equal opportunity institution. For information on the University's Policy on Non-Discrimination, visit ferris.edu/non-discrimination.

# LeClerc Andre: from Jimmy Fallon, to NBC, to Ferris

## Stand up comedian brings laughs and potential love stories in time for Valentine's Day

**Jonathen Hart**  
News Reporter

Stand up comedian LeClerc Andre gave a show in the David L. Eisler Center where he was a part-time comedian and part-time matchmaker.

Throughout the show, Andre engaged with the audience. He wanted to get to know them and have everyone participate in the show. After he finished his set, he had time for a Q&A session and played matchmaker to try and get people to know each other.

"Towards the end of the show, I'll do a Q&A, and I'll also give people an opportunity to introduce themselves to each other," Andre said. "Hopefully, that'll lead to getting a coffee after the show or maybe grabbing some fries locally or something. It's been a really, really popular portion of the show. So, that's something that I want to do more. It's something that I find the students really enjoy."

Andre was successful in his search to find two people and get them to match, bringing elementary education freshmen Delaney Beckett and freshmen Benji Zorn up on stage.

Andre asked Beckett and Zorn a few questions like "what are you looking for in another person" and "are you looking or interested in a relationship?" After the show, Andre bought Beckett and Zorn coffee to get them to talk a little more.

For Beckett, it was a nervous experience. She wasn't sure what she was getting herself into. Zorn, on the other hand, was confident and ready to get up there.

"He was really nice," Beckett said. "He ended up buying us coffee and talking with us for a little bit. He was wholesome and down to earth. The show overall was super entertaining. Some comedians don't make you laugh at every joke, [Andre] made us laugh the whole time."

Zorn enjoyed how Andre participated

with the audience and incorporated them into some of the jokes.

"He talked to just about everyone and asked questions about them," Zorn said. "You don't see that from every comedian, so it was cool that he could come into a small town like this and be involved with us students. I think that's a big reason why I liked him so much."

Andre didn't plan to become a stand up comedian, it just happened without him expecting it.

"It wasn't really a choice," Andre said. "When I graduated from college as an English major, I was doing a bunch of freelance writing, and I found myself writing [comedy]. I realized that's where my interest was creativity. So, after writing a bunch

of funny skits and a bunch of funny material, I went to see if it was actually good, and that's what pushed me to get on stage."

It took Andre some time to figure out whether people actually enjoyed what he was doing.

"I started to grow confident in my abilities on stage after five or six years," Andre said. "It was a combination of doing better shows and finding what works for me on stage. I was able to get into it a little more when people started liking it."

Appearing on "The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon" and NBC's "Bring the Funny" was a humbling experience for Andre.

"It was one of the most validating



Photo by: Evan Hibbard | Freelance Photographer

**LeClerc Andre took his comedy to campus with a set in the David L. Eisler Center.**

experiences I had as a performer," Andre said. "You could do comedy for years and always question your abilities, but having a credit like that really helps make you feel like you belong. That was a really proud moment for me when I did 'The Tonight Show.' After 'The Tonight Show,' I moved onto a show on NBC called 'Bring the Funny.' Being able to get my name out there was amazing. People finally knew who I was."

Music and entertainment business junior and Entertainment Unlimited president Kaitlyn Walters was excited to bring Andre to Ferris.

"Some of our members, including my-

self, went to a convention for the National Association of Campus Activities, which is a big showcase of a bunch of acts that can come to campus," Walters said. "[Andre] was one of the ones who performed, and we really liked him. We wanted to do what we could to secure him, and we were all happy when we did."

Entertainment Unlimited plans on bringing in different performers within the next few months, including comedian Adam Grabowski, who is performing on Feb. 23 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. To see what's coming next, be sure to check out the campus calendar.

## IT troubles and Wi-Fi woes

### IT's fight for a user friendly Ferris

**Ember St. sAmour**  
News Reporter

The information technology department presented their plans for a new Ferris portal and a Wi-Fi update at last week's Student Government Association meeting.

Chief Information Officer Charlie Weaver offered the SGA an update on Pathify, the new online portal, after participating students voted to replace MyFSU in late 2022.

"[Pathify] is so much nicer looking," Weaver said. "It's clean, it's organized, it's familiar, but different... I think it's gonna be very easy to use, and it's geared towards the experience of our students and our staff and faculty."

With personalized widgets based on criteria such as year and major, the self-proclaimed "modern student portal" will present a slightly different dashboard to each user. These widgets could include a summative Canvas window displaying important class information, a schedule,

financial balances, Office365 productivity and even a social media window. A full demonstration of what Ferris' Pathify portal could look like can be accessed through the MyFSU Replacement Recordings & Survey email sent on Dec. 8, 2022.

The project to replace MyFSU comes after months of dissatisfaction with the platform. Three days after the SGA meeting, the platform was down for roughly eight hours, leaving the campus community unable to clock in to on-campus jobs or access assignments, e-bills and calendars.

Weaver briefly touched on the Wi-Fi issues occurring around campus during the meeting. Pre-medicine biology senior Shamar Shqair, an SGA general assembly member, was not satisfied with the answers Weaver had. Shqair explained that she has had issues with the Wi-Fi since she got here and believes that IT's shift in focus to a new portal has them going in the wrong direction.

"I don't think that we should be worried about a [new portal] for campus if MyFSU

is working okay," Shqair said. "Right now, we should be worried about how kids are going to access MyFSU. Because if kids can't access any of that, then what does it matter?... I think the Wi-Fi is the biggest issue, but it seems that there are other priorities to the college right now, or at least to the IT center."

Shqair believes that the desktop computers in the Science Building run unbearably slowly, taking "up to 13 minutes" to log in. Weaver explained that he intends to have someone look at the computers and determine if they are connected to the Wi-Fi to find the source of the problem. However, there are limitations to what IT can do.

"There could be a lot of things, but I want to check these things out, and I want to see if we can do anything about it," Weaver said. "And it may be that the machines are really old, and I can't do that. I don't have the budget to do everything."

Weaver explained how delivery issues are impeding IT's progress with the Wi-Fi.

Once their equipment arrives, Weaver and the IT department have a plan to take action.

"When [the equipment] comes in, we're going to deploy it in a way that we can make the changes to the wireless first without having to do everything else," Weaver said.

Weaver hopes that the transition will take place sometime during the summer. Weaver maintains that students taking summer classes should not be inconvenienced by the switch.

"We can have both [portals] running at the same time," Weaver said. "It should not impact the student's ability to do their work."

Weaver plans to bring more updates about Pathify to the SGA in April and to send out tutorials when Pathify is fully launched. He hopes to receive the materials to start working on the Wi-Fi issues soon.

# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Ready for Red Out day

Sports careers RSO holds annual Red Out for women's heart health



Courtesy of Sports Careers RSO

Ariana Costie (left) and Gavin Somers (right) work one of the auction tables to raise money for women's heart health.

Jasmine Baar  
Freelance Reporter

A rambunctious, red crowd rilled the R.L. Ewigleben Sports Complex on Saturday, Feb. 11.

The sports careers registered student organization sponsored their annual Red Out event, raising awareness for women's heart health. Their event, usually lasting three days, was packed into one Saturday this year.

According to the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women, "cardiovascular disease kills more women than all forms of cancer combined, and yet only 44% recognize that cardiovascular disease is their greatest health threat."

There was a silent auction held during the men's basketball and hockey games. The hockey silent auction included two themed gift baskets, golf reservations at

Tullymore, a signed picture of former hockey player Mike Eruzione and two hockey jerseys and sticks signed by the team. All silent auction and information table donations are going toward the cardiac unit at Cornwall Health in Big Rapids.

Sports careers faculty advisor and Ferris professor Dr. Sandy Alspach was over the moon with the event's production and turnout.

"We didn't have any idea we'd get this big when we started this event," Alspach said. "It just keeps growing, and now we get to do better than the year before. It's a national event."

The American Heart Association has been nationally celebrating heart health in February for 60 years. The sports careers RSO modified the event to specifically target women and has brought awareness to heart health for 11 years now.

Sports career co-social media coordina-

tor and sports communication junior Claire Bressler had a particular connection to Red Out.

"My grandma died right before Thanksgiving of a stroke, so it's very special to be able to help something so important to my family and bring awareness," Bressler said.

At the end of the all-day event, the RSO managed to raise \$3,727 for women's heart health in Big Rapids. Sports communication junior and the co-social media coordinator for the RSO Bethany Mckinney felt good about the event's outcome.

"We're delighted with all the sponsors that we got," Mckinney said. "We scored donations from different organizations like the Griffins and Tullymore."

"Last year we raised \$1,200, and we broke that record," sports communication senior and sports careers member Courtney Mcmillian said. "Our team couldn't be

happier to be able to donate so much to such an important cause that hits close to home."

Unfortunately, the Bulldogs took a 6-2 loss in their second game against Bemidji State, putting playing on home ice for the playoffs in jeopardy. The all-red Dawg Pound was relentless in cheering on the Bulldogs and attempting to bring down the spirit of their opponent. Although the Dawg Pound was filled with disappointed Bulldogs, the season-long hockey fans' optimism never wavered.

Criminal justice junior Faith Faille appreciates the maintained energy fans have, even when the Bulldogs aren't winning. She believes the atmosphere on the ice is different from other sports and the energy of the Bulldogs student section is "unmatched."



Courtesy of Sports Careers RSO

President Bill Pink came to show his support for the event and cause.

# DO NOT SCAN THIS...

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



## CD BARNES CONSTRUCTION



# Prom for the queer community

## Ferris' first masquerade ball

Kylah Robinson  
Culture Reporter

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center and Pride Big Rapids brought the community together for a night of dinner, snacks and dancing.

The event kicked off with everyone sitting at a table of their choosing and eating a variety of food provided by Ferris catering. The room was filled with conversation as participants enjoyed their meal.

PBR President Darin Coleman conversed with attendees, complimented them on their outfits and made sure everyone was comfortable. Coleman has been a member of PBR since 2021 and was one of the original members. Living in Big Rapids, Coleman joined PBR to do more for the community and give people a safe haven to be themselves.

"I have lived here a long time without knowing where there was a safe place to go, where a place I could go to be accepted was," Coleman said. "I thought if I ever had the opportunity to do more, I was going to take it, and when [PBR] was presented, I realized this was something that was actually going to be successful in our community."

Becca Osborne, the director of LGBTQ+ Resource Center, also wants to give the community a space where people can dress and express themselves freely.

"The queer community doesn't always get to have the experience like a school dance," Osborne said. "Whether that's because of bullying or the clothing that goes with how they choose to identify. If you've never had access to a ballgown before and you were never allowed to wear one, this is the kind of opportunity to do things like that."

When the clock struck seven, more students swarmed in ready to show off their dancing skills and outfits. Medical lab science junior Breanna Hall entered the ball in a white wedding dress with a flowing train and a long veil that went down with her hair.

"I am a queer student, so being able to be with other queer people is really nice," Hall said. "I need to be able to get out because school can really bring you down."

Casmra Bogucki was invited to the ball by their mom, Pamela Bogucki, a former Ferris professor. Casmra and Pamela showed up to the function wearing matching teal shirts.

"I feel so privileged to be able to do that," Casmra said. "I know that so many people, especially queer people, have really rough relationships with their moms, and to be at a queer event dancing with my mom, it feels sacred."

DJ and musician Allison LeVeque performed a live show, singing a few pop songs for the audience. She has been performing professionally for 20 years and is currently working on a cover for the song "True Colors" by Cyndi Lauper to hopefully resonate with the LGBTQ community.

"I think that if more people could be more open-minded to the LGBTQIA+ community, I think the world would be a better place," LeVeque said.

The next big event PBR will be hosting is the Pride Festival on June 25 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be food trucks, band music and a drag show. If you are looking to become a member of PBR, meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month at the United Church of Big Rapids.



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

Abigail Beveridge (center left) and Breanna Hall (center right) dance among friends at the LGBTQ+ Winter Ball.



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

(From left to right) Abigail Othmer, Heather LeFavre, Sydney Mingori and Abigail Beveridge participate in the Cha-Cha Slide.



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

Attendees socializing at the LGBTQ+ Winter Ball last Friday evening.



READ A PAPER EVERY WEDNESDAY

-OR-

READ ARTICLES ONLINE AT  
WWW.FSUTORCH.COM

# Stuff-a-plush

## Resident Hall Association hosts successful stuff-a-plush event

**Marlow Losey**  
*Freelance Reporter*

Anticipation and excitement grew as students waited in a long line to choose their new fluffy, stuffed friend. As they were welcomed with Valentine's Day gift bags, chocolate roses and materials to stuff their plush, the ballroom filled with hundreds of happy faces.

Sitting on a table near the entrance were stuffed animal choices, including a fluffy, white bear, a bright, green frog, a black and white panda and a soft, gray cow. Similar to Build-a-Bear Workshop, students got to pick a felt heart to place inside the toy and select a shirt to decorate with markers. Along with this, each plushie came with a birth certificate, allowing the animal's new owner to pick a name and report their date of birth.

Despite their expectations, the Resident Hall Association was surprised with the event's large turnout. RHA President Faith Faille felt proud of the event's success.

"I figured it was going to be a big event," Faille said. "So many people were talking about it and getting ahead of us ahead of time saying, 'I can't make it' and 'Can I come in early?'"

Faille was happy to see a ballroom full of satisfied students. Each table held a crowd of roughly ten, and groups of students worked on the floor when tables were too full.

Criminal justice junior Aliegha Mack went to the event to make her and

her boyfriend a stuffed animal, which she used to ask him to be her Valentine. Along with this, she thought that being able to design the shirt herself was a form of self-expression. She was happy to show off

her design of the cow she named Moo-Moo, which had a rainbow of dinosaurs decorating its shirt.

"I like the fact that I made it myself," Mack said. "My favorite part [of the event]

was drawing the shirts. The sense that it feels homemade, it has more meaning."

Students shared excitement for the stuffed animal choices. The collective favorite appeared to be the cow and frog.

"I think the cutest one was the cow," Mack said. "I knew the cow and frog were going to be gone first. I loved all of the choices."

Social work sophomore Bryanna Monaco has always had a love for stuffed animals, even as an adult. Despite being told she was too old for stuffed animals, she continued this love by pouring it into her own plushie and sharing the excitement with the other participants.

"[Stuffed animals] bring me comfort," Monaco said. "I still have the teddy bear that I got for my very first Christmas. I've had it for 19 years."

The unanimous love for stuffed animals wasn't the only reason students brought themselves to the stuff-a-plush event. Monaco shares more of what joys she experienced at the event, such as being able to make the bear herself.

"I absolutely love making my own stuff like arts and crafts and stuffing it on my own and sitting here with friends while I do it," Monaco said.

Overall, the outcome of the event was a major success. Although the event was meant to last from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., it closed early as supplies ran out.



Photo by: Marissa Russell | Multimedia Editor

From making Valentine's Day gifts to a pal to study with, students flocked to the Stuff-a-plush station.

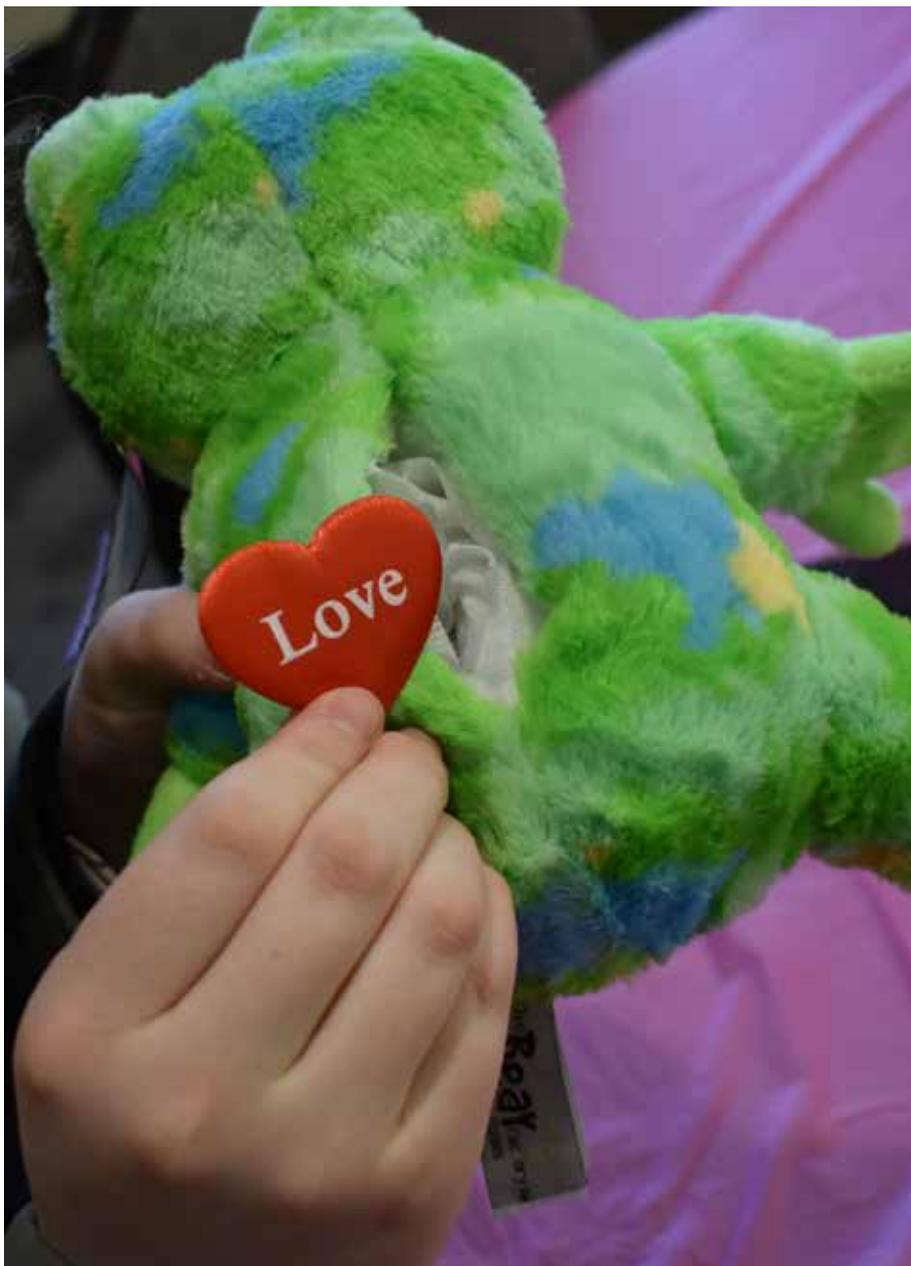


Photo by: Marissa Russell | Multimedia Editor

Students appreciated being able to customize their stuffies for that homemade feeling.

# WANTED

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ferris State Torch

### 2022 - 2023 SCHOOL YEAR:

We are seeking an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor-in-Chief position during the 2022 - 23 school year. Candidates must write well, possess excellent leadership skills and be prepared to work the entire school year. Candidates should be familiar with basic journalistic principles, as well as printed and digital publishing techniques. Qualified students can receive competitive wages for up to 20 hours per week. Ability to work and train in April and August of 2022 is necessary. Prior journalism experience or training required.

*The Torch offers a chance to work in a professional "real world" environment and adds excellent credentials to your resume*

### APPLICANTS NEED TO SUBMIT:

- Resume
- One-page (typed) essay answering the following:
  - >> Why do I want to be Editor-in-Chief?
  - >> What should be the goals of a student-run newspaper?
  - >> How will I, as Editor-in-Chief, ensure that the newspaper reaches its goals?
- Copies of articles or other written work
- At least two references (recommendation letters not required)

### SEND RESUME, ESSAY AND CLIPPINGS TO:

Garrett Stack at [garrettstack@ferris.edu](mailto:garrettstack@ferris.edu)

**DEADLINE: Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

# 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:

# Will AI replace you before you even graduate?

Noah Kurkjan  
*Editor-In-Chief*

A major technological breakthrough is upon us. Bigger than smartphones, rivaling the internet: AI like ChatGPT and DALL-E2. These AI-driven tools process language naturally and use their massive indexes of data to answer questions, do tasks, complete entire workflows and even generate art.

Launching in Nov. 2022, ChatGPT has been taking the world by storm, amassing a user base of over a million in just five days, something that took a giant like Facebook ten months to do. So far, it's done everything from menu planning, to writing A-worthy essays, to translation work and, as of last Friday, passing the American Medical Licensing Exam, which is considered the gold-standard, according to PLOS Digital Health.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. Services like DALL-E2 can create AI-generated art in a matter of seconds, which is something I have already been using to make placeholder images in assignments, with permission.

This takes the guesswork out of finding a stock image or, in some cases, providing your own media at all.

But it has some stark limits. First, its knowledge has bounds. It only has the data it's given to work with as a knowledge base. For instance, ChatGPT's dataset includes knowledge through 2021 and earlier. Any requests regarding 2022 through the current day won't get the user very far, according to Search Engine Journal.

Further, AI still lacks the ability to understand nuance fully. It takes queries very literally. In an example where an AI was tasked with making a simulated robot go from point A to B, the AI chose to make the legs of the robot massive to achieve the goal in one step, whereas a human would have altered the speed the robot moved at, rather than increase its size. Without in-depth, predetermined parameters in place, the AI will take the most direct or literal path in lieu of what a human may do.

Additionally, it can be flat-out wrong. CNBC gathered ChatGPT's most outrageous errors, and they

were alarming. The errors ranged from incorrectly answering math problems to making up historical figures and statistics. Sure, this will improve with time as the data sets expand. But will we ever be able to truly teach it everything?

Finally, it simply lacks the human aspect of creation. When I've tried to turn out writing like mine, even feeding it some examples, speech that was supposed to sound like me still came out very clinical and dry. It lacked my personal flare — or any flare for that matter. It just turned out a piece about the topic that, honestly, I don't think a general consumer would want to read.

I think the Torch's production manager, Sienna Parmelee, puts it best.

"When I'm designing, the whole piece is meant to tell a story," Parmelee said. "An AI could probably produce a trendy graphic or ad, but it's going to be missing the human connection that engages the audience that a human designer has been trained to bring."

While I could see AI automating, say, my payroll process as soon as next week, I don't see an

AI replacing me quite yet. I don't see it as an impossibility, but with so many questions about authenticity, reliability, factual accuracy and copyright ownership, there are far too many variables for this to break into the professional world any time soon.

I even asked it what jobs it thought it could or would replace, and I was surprised by its answer.

"As an AI language model, I can automate certain tasks and make them faster and more efficient, which can result in the replacement of certain jobs," ChatGPT said. "However, it's important to note that the impact of AI on the job market is complex and multifaceted, and there are both positive and negative effects to consider."

It went on to deliver both sides of the argument, lay out the positives and the negatives and discuss what jobs it could completely cannibalize, like customer service and data entry. Maybe my days reporting the news aren't quite over, but with an eloquent answer like that, opinion pieces like these may go by the wayside sooner than I'd like to think.

## 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

# The perks of working in your major

## How I found working in my major beneficial

Ember St. Amour  
*News Reporter*

With so many on and off-campus jobs to choose from, working within the field I study has helped me become a better worker and student simultaneously.

Picking a major and not taking classes related to it in high school to back up your decision can be stressful. That's how I felt when I first picked journalism as my major.

I had no experience working with journalism before, and I didn't know if I would enjoy majoring in it. After my first couple of days here, I found the perfect opportunity to see if I would enjoy

journalism.

While I was looking for an on-campus job, I attended the on-campus job fair. The Torch happened to be there that day, and I instantly knew I wanted to join. Not only would it be an opportunity to help me decide whether I was sure this was what I wanted to major in, it would also help me improve my skills.

When I first started out as a reporter, I didn't have any tips or ideas of how to get good reporting notes. When I began reporting on my first story, I asked a lot of questions and made a few mistakes, but I knew it was what I wanted to major in.

The more time I spent working

in my major, the better I did on my assignments. I was picking up things from working in the field that we hadn't quite covered in my journalism classes yet.

I found myself afraid to ask people if I could interview them, as I thought that they would be mad at me. However, I have found that I've become more comfortable going up to people and asking them for an interview. After all, the worst that they can say is no.

In my first journalism class, we did an assignment where we had to interview people. Working with the Torch during my first semester allowed me to tackle interviewing people, a common

practice in my major.

According to US News, 70% of students work in college. Why not work in a job related to your major if available? It can help with your skills, major specific classes and help you build work experience. I know that when I'm finished with my degree, I will be able to bring my experience in the field to future employers, showing them I have the skills for the job.

You should give yourself the best chance you can to help yourself with your major. Working in your major while on campus can be a great way to help yourself out, both in classes and your future.

# What's a college town without a movie theater?

## Are movie theaters becoming a thing of the past?



Photo by: Noah Kurkjian | Editor in Chief

AMC Big Rapids closed on March 16, 2020 for the COVID-19 pandemic never to reopen again.

**Harmony Goodman**  
Freelance Reporter

As a freshman on campus, I have noticed that Big Rapids is not the same as Grand Rapids.

I imagined that a college town would have lots of things for students to do off-campus, but instead I find myself taking trips to Meijer with my friends for fun.

It wasn't until I took a trip downtown in late September that this started to dawn on me. If you take a trip off-campus, you can find the downtown area of Big Rapids. There I found the remains of the Big Rapids AMC. I had to turn and ask a friend what an AMC was, since I wasn't familiar. This may come as a surprise, but by the time I was old enough to start going to theaters, all the AMCs in my area, as well as many other movie theaters, had shut down.

I think the lack of a movie theater in a college town is odd. Unfortunately, this is becoming more and more common. With more streaming services popping up in the

last few years, movie theaters have lost business. The same thing has happened with movie rental places like Family Video.

According to NPR, throughout the pandemic, many people have stopped going to theaters, causing ticket sales to decrease by 80% in just the last few years. As college students, we are encouraged to get out and socialize, and movie theaters are a great place to go for a group activity.

Sure, I could just watch a movie on one of those streaming services in my dorm room, but it's not the same. You can only fit so many friends into a dorm room, especially when you have a double room, before it starts getting crowded. Plus, what about the popcorn and other snacks? Not everyone has the luxury of a microwave in their dorm room, and the dorm hall microwaves are usually gross from whatever

the person who used it last made.

The AMC has been closed down since the pandemic and has remained empty for the past two years. That is, until it was purchased by a marijuana growing and processing company called Michigan Pipe Dreams, LLC. It is unfortunate that, while we have multiple marijuana stores in business, we don't have a movie theatre. How long will it be until movie theaters are a thing of the past?

During these winter months, I think it's really important that Ferris students can

go out and enjoy a movie on a Friday night instead of going to a party. Maybe I am old-fashioned, but it would be nice to leave my dorm room for a few hours and go to the cinema.

I find myself way too often held up in my dorm room, especially with the cold weather, and eventually keeping to myself on the weekends catches up to me. Even just being in a room filled with people watching the same movie makes me feel a little less lonely.

**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/FSUATHLETESOFTHETWEEK**  
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  
SOLUTION COACHING Leadership teamwork  
VISION  
DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS Create  
MARKETING  
STRATEGY relation Vision  
GOALS Target  
MARKETING  
SOLUTION  
POWER SUCCESS

**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

## Hockey remains in fifth place



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Torch Photographer

Antonio Venuto celebrates his short-handed goal during Ferris' 3-2 victory over Bemidji on Friday. Venuto's goal was his sixth of the season.

### Bulldogs split home series with fourth place Bemidji

Dylan Rider  
Opinions Editor

Bulldog hockey split for the 12th time this season in their home series against the Bemidji State Beavers.

The Bulldogs' (12-14-4) split comes in a very crucial series, which could have a lasting impact on the playoff picture in the CCHA playoffs. A tight 3-2 win against the Beavers (12-13-5) on Friday, followed by a 6-2 loss on Saturday, leaves the Bulldogs one point behind the Beavers in the hunt for home ice.

The Bulldogs' close contest opened with a late goal from the Beavers to put the team down by one with 30 seconds left in the first period. Less than a minute into the second, senior forward Jason Brancheau tied the game at one.

Scoring went silent for another period until senior forward Antonio Venuto took over on the Bulldog penalty kill and scored shorthanded for a 2-1 lead. Ferris gave up another Beaver goal, which tied the game again at 2-2.

With overtime looming, junior forward Mitch Deelstra went one-on-one with Be-

midji goaltender Mattias Sholl and netted the game winner with 46 seconds left in the third for a final score of 3-2.

Head coach Bob Daniels discussed being able to score first against a "stingy" defensive team like Bemidji.

"They're a tough team to come back from because they position themselves so well defensively," Daniels said. "That was a huge goal when Brancheau scored our first goal off the face off and being able to go in and get the rebound. I really felt that was a big, big goal for us. So then from there, we never trailed again, which is good."

The Bulldogs had a bad track record late last season. The team often let in late goals, which caused them to lose the game, or lost their third period lead and where unable to get it back.

Deelstra spoke on being able to flip the narrative and win it late for the Bulldogs on Friday night.

"I've been here for the last couple of years," Deelstra said. "We've had a couple late goals... and you know how much of a dagger it is late in the game heading into Saturday. It kind of stings a little bit more,

knowing that you were right in that game then [losing] it in the last 45 seconds to a minute, so it was really good to get that."

The Bulldogs' hopes of keeping the fourth place spot through the weekend were dashed following a shelling of a revenge match for the Beavers.

After going down 2-0 in the first period, the game started off poorly for the Bulldogs. Freshman defenseman Travis Shoudy cut into the Beaver lead with under a minute left in the second period to make it 2-1. Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, the game unraveled in favor of the Beavers when they scored three goals in under two minutes to make the game 5-1. Following their tough second period, sophomore goaltender Noah Giesbrecht was pulled for junior goaltender Logan Stein.

To start the third period, senior defenseman Brenden MacLaren scored on a powerplay opportunity to put the game at 5-2. With 50 seconds left in the game, the Beavers put an emphasis on their victory with another goal, finalizing a 6-2 loss for the Bulldogs.

Daniels discussed Bemidji's rejuvenated play and commented on the Bulldogs'

faults.

"[Bemidji] got beat last night, so they had a lot more jump than we had tonight," Daniels said. "When we fell behind, it just didn't feel like we had the legs for whatever reason. We looked tired and it showed... They were much more tenacious than we were."

Splits have been the norm for the Bulldogs this season. As mentioned before, this is their 12th split. The Bulldogs have only swept one team and got six out of six points. On the other end of the spectrum, the Bulldogs have only been swept once.

The Bulldogs started the weekend a point behind Bemidji and ended it a point behind Bemidji. This series could have been a turning point in their campaign for home ice in the CCHA playoffs. With four regular season games left, there is still a chance. However, the Bulldogs must make the top four in order to receive home ice.

Ferris will go on the road this weekend to play the Northern Michigan Wildcats in their penultimate series. They will return home on Feb. 27 and Feb. 28 to play the Lake Superior State Lakers in what could be their final home series of the season.

## SCORECARD

### Men's Tennis

Feb. 10 - Ferris 7, Hillsdale 0  
Feb. 11 - Ferris 6, Findlay 1

### Women's Tennis

Feb. 10 - Ferris 5, Hillsdale 2  
Feb. 12 - Ferris 6, Findlay 1

### Track and Field

Feb. 10-11 - Emma Stephayn eighth in weight throw, Brandon Wirth seventh in 5000 meters

# Continued success



Photo by: Mariana Searl | Torch Photographer

**Dolapo Olayinka dunks the ball during Ferris' 85-58 victory over Wayne State. Olayinka had six points and 12 rebounds.**

## Bulldogs top Wayne State and Saginaw Valley to secure another 20 win season

**Joseph Nagy**  
Sports Reporter

A weekend sweep in the last homestand of the regular season ensured another 20 win season for the Bulldogs.

In his 10 years as head coach, Andy Bronkema has only had one season where the team has had less than 20 wins. With wins over Wayne State and Saginaw Valley last weekend, he adds another season to the tally.

Both Wayne State and Saginaw Valley came into Wink Arena on the bottom half of the GLIAC standings, but in this conference, it can be anybody's game on any given night.

It was all Bulldogs (22-9 16-4 GLIAC) on Thursday, as they cruised to an easy victory over the Warriors with a final score of 85-58. From the jump, the offense was firing on all cylinders. Ethan Erickson sank six three's in the contest, closing the game with a team high 20 points. With a more spread out scoring effort, just two other Bulldogs reached double digits, as Solomon Oraegbu notched 19 and Ben Davidson had 10.

"I thought a lot of players made good plays today and contributions," Bronkema said.

Ferris made second chances for the Warriors a small worry, as they edged a 49-30 difference in rebounds, including 12 on the offensive side. Dolapo Olayinka and Mykel Bingham did the most damage with 12 and seven boards, respectively. The

Bulldog's shared the love, as 10 players finished with at least one assist, and nine out of the 10 who saw the floor scored a point in Thursday's contest.

The Bulldogs barely missed the 50% mark from the field in shooting, going 33-67. Wayne State shot only 37% for field goals and 40% (6/15) from beyond the arc. Missing two key players, the Warriors were lead in points scored by Ray Williams with 18 points.

"Two of their main players weren't here today," Bronkema said. "That makes it interesting; you don't know how they're really built."

A possibility at three wins in a row and another 20 win season was on the line when Saginaw Valley came to town two days later. And with a record that doesn't accurately express the abilities of the team, the Cardinals were hungry for the upset. Ultimately, it was the Bulldogs that got the win in a close 80-75 contest.

It was an interesting first half, as Ferris jumped to control the game early. However, by halftime the Cardinals were within eight and had some momentum coming out of the locker room. The hope of a comeback was snuffed quickly, as the Bulldogs hit multiple threes after the break.

Davidson reminded the defense how dangerous he can be with space beyond the arc, as he went 4-5 on threes to finish the game with 16 points. Olayinka brought much needed energy by putting up 14 points. Vejas Gra-

zulis ended the game with nine and Reece Hazelton had eight, but it was Oraegbu who led the team in scoring with 19 points in total.

"They made big plays, big shots. They just stayed right there," Bronkema said.

Going 45% from the floor, it took a total team effort to stay level headed when the shots weren't falling. Saginaw Valley caught a case of the misses with just a 43% shooting performance, while netting seven of 26 from the deep line.

Ferris barely edged out the Cardinals in rebounding. In a final

tally of 37-35, the Bulldogs came up big with nine offensive boards and more opportunities to get another bucket.

When the final whistle blew, another 20 win season was in the books for the Bulldogs. A story of continued success and a tradition of excellence is being continued at least through this 2022-23 season.

"I'm just so thankful for the guys that decided to come here and decided to sign up for being a Ferris State Bulldog," Bronkema said. "We've had a number of just wonderful players and wonderful people, and that's how

you win some games."

With the two weekend wins, the Bulldogs are just a half game back from the top spot in the GLIAC. Now at a record of 20-6 overall and 11-6 in conference, a three game road trip will close out the regular season for the Bulldogs. The team will start the first game of the road trip against Lake State University on Saturday, Feb. 18, hoping to avenge the mid season loss at home against the Lakers earlier this year.

## 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**

# Idoni reaches 1000 points



Photo by: Evan Hibbard | Freelance Photographer

Chloe Idoni goes up for a layup during Ferris' loss to Saginaw Valley. She had 21 points, including her 1000th career point, in the game.

**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.



## Idoni hits big milestone in Bulldog loss

Jeffrey Walker  
Sports Reporter

Senior Chloe Idoni scored her 1000th career point against Saginaw Valley on Saturday, but the Bulldogs could not record a win.

Idoni recorded 14 points on Thursday against Wayne State, leaving her 20 shy of 1000. Then, she got 21 more on Saturday.

"Yeah, I'm proud of myself," Idoni said. "Obviously I owe half of it to my team [for] putting the ball right in my hands... I wouldn't have gotten half of those without them getting me that, so I owe a lot of credit to them and a lot of coaches."

Despite Idoni's milestone, the Bulldogs failed to record a win in two home games of GLIAC play. Now 14-10 on the season and 7-8 in GLIAC play, the Bulldogs find themselves at fifth place in the GLIAC standings.

The Bulldogs first hosted Wayne State, losing that contest 64-63.

Ferris struggled offensively, shooting 22-61 (36.1%) from the field and 6-28 (21.4%) from the three-point range.

After being down 50-40 to start the fourth quarter, the Bulldogs rallied late for a comeback attempt but ultimately came up short.

The fourth quarter was the best offensive quarter for Ferris, as they scored 23 points after scoring 16, 10 and 14 in the first three quarters, respectively.

The Bulldogs were outrebounded 37-32 by Wayne State.

DeShonna Day led the scoring with 16, Idoni added 14 points, Elle Irwin had 13 points and Mallory McCartney finished with eight points.

McCartney finished with six assists, Idoni had five and Kenzie Bowers added three assists.

Idoni and Bowers both had six rebounds to lead the Bulldogs, McCartney added five rebounds, Irwin had four and both Day and Mia Riley finished with two

rebounds.

"It's a disappointing one definitely," head coach Kurt Westendorp said. "We're fighting for spots right now, so it's kind of tough to come up on the tough end of that one."

The Bulldogs then shifted their focus to Saginaw Valley, resulting in an 80-71 loss.

The Bulldogs' rough first half from the field had them fighting to get back in the game, as their comeback fell short again.

In the first half, the Bulldogs shot 8-25 (32%) from the field, and they went into the half down 40-26.

The Bulldogs were outrebounded 44-25, and Saginaw Valley had more assists than the Bulldogs with 22-16.

Defensively, the Bulldogs struggled in the first half, as Saginaw Valley shot 15-29 (51.7%) from the field and 5-10 (50%) from three-point range.

Leading the Bulldogs in scoring was Idoni with 21 points, McCartney had 18 points, Bowers added 11 points, Riley had nine points and Day finished with eight points.

Bowers led with six rebounds, Idoni and McCartney both added four rebounds, Riley had three rebounds and both Day and Irwin finished with two rebounds.

Leading the Bulldogs in assists was McCartney with seven. She has 493 career assists, which puts her 10 behind Carrie Roys' Ferris record of 530. Bowers had four assists, and both Irwin and Idoni finished with two assists.

"We just have to learn and move on," Idoni said. "We just have to take what we learned from it and apply it to our next time because nothing's going to help if we just dwell on our losses."

The Bulldogs will have the opportunity to learn from those losses as they go on the road to take on Lake Superior State University at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18.