

The Ferris State Torch

92 YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Summer Edition: May 12, 2023

www.fsutorch.com



Bulldog Days of Summer



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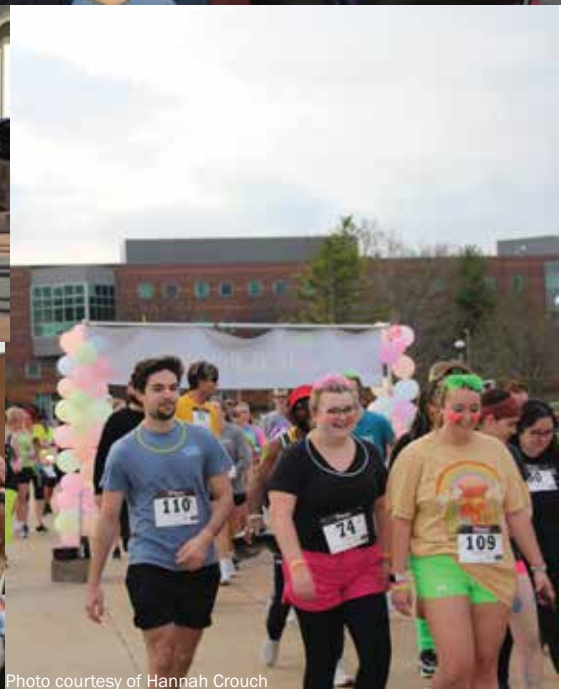


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News

Ember St. Amour | News Editor | stamoue@ferris.edu

Pink's Message for summer

President reflects on first year, looks forward to future



Photo courtesy of Hannah Crouch

President Bill Pink speaks at the annual Office of Multicultural Services commencement ceremony, one of his last events of the academic year.

Jessica Oakes
Editor-in-Chief

This academic school year was a time of partnership building, campus events and golf cart rides for President Bill Pink.

As he brings his first full year on campus to a close, Pink is already planning for the fall. He has a simple message for students ready to enjoy their summer: don't forget to come back.

"First of all, come back," Pink said. "Secondly, when you come back, make sure that while you're here on campus, when you're at college, make sure that you get the most out of what the university offers."

He feels he has learned the stories of the Ferris community well enough to focus on bigger and bolder opportunities in the future.

The 2020s have not been easy for higher education. NPR reports that national university enrollment has been declining for over a decade, a phenomenon greatly exaggerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Ferris' total enrollment in fall 2022 was 10,072, standing 2400 lower than that of fall 2019.

"How do you take a university from always being disrupted to becoming the disrupter?"

Pink took this year as an opportunity to learn about Ferris and ask if old systems and norms were truly the best way to perform. He

reports learning the most from the Board of Trustees, his leadership council and students.

By combining perspectives from across Ferris' campus, Pink wants to make an informed game plan.

"Who do we need to be five years from now?"

He appreciates it when students share their perspectives with him, whether they send him an email or strike up a conversation at a football game.

"In the midst of all the conversation, you start identifying some of the common things," Pink said. "And it's always interesting to me when common themes emerge. And common themes here have been apparent."

The most "impressive" thing Pink can hear from a student or alumni is that they love Ferris.

"We have to find out those folks who say, 'I love it,'" Pink said. "Find out why they love it. What is it that you love? Find out those folks who say, 'I hate it, and I'm not coming back.' Find out why they're not happy."

Many of Pink's conversations with his leadership team involve the concept of "self-inflicted wounds" at universities. These are not great, external difficulties such

as the pandemic. A self-inflicted wound is something that the university is responsible for and can improve.

"You change those things so that you make things [run] smoother," Pink said. "You change them in the right way. You ask the right questions. If you find out 'no, this needs to be changed because it can serve our students better,' that's what you have to do."

Pink looks forward to the future of Ferris, as well as the wider future of all higher education.

Editor's Statement

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

If you're trying to figure out the latest news about new classes, possible safety concerns on campus, or new professors, the news section is the place to go.

My name is Ember St. Amour and I'm the new editor for the news section. My goal is to help every student, professor and community member find out the latest

news that's happening on campus.

Through my section, I hope that I can bring the perspective of what's happening on campus to everyone, so that they can be up to date on the latest news at Ferris. I hope to keep frequent updates on what is going on with the Student Government Association, so students know about who is representing them and what is happening on campus.

I also plan to keep the Michigan

and global news updates, as well as the on the record updates in my section so that anyone reading the paper can be up to date on what is not only happening at Ferris, but also throughout the state and world.

Finally, I plan to do less event coverage in the news section, as I want to focus on less known news happening on campus to keep the community informed.



Photo courtesy of Ember St. Amour

Journalism and technical communication sophomore Ember begins her role as news editor.

Good eats in Big Rapids

Summer spots for students dining on a budget



Graphic By: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Harmony Goodman
Production Manager

As the Rock closes down this summer for renovations, the Quad might not be the go-to place for every occasion. Thankfully what Big Rapids lacks in entertainment, it makes up for in restaurants.

Study Spots and Pick-Me-Ups

Located right outside of campus, the Big Rapids Panera Bread is a cozy place for students to go for a quick bite with some friends or homework. Panera will help keep students energized in the morning with their charged lemonades, and warm during the cold winter months in Big Rapids with warm soups. If the library is too packed, Panera can be a great study place to crack down on schoolwork and pack up with nutrients. (\$10-\$20 per person)

For those who prefer a more scenic route, and maybe a morning walk, Bernie's Place downtown is worth checking out. Bernie's Place offers breakfast foods and a wide variety of doughnuts. It is a cheaper option for students who are looking to venture away from scrambled eggs at the Quad. For those who enjoy eating outside, Bernie's Place is located right near Mitchell Creek Park. If you are out and about on a date downtown you can grab a doughnut and walk over to Mitchell Creek Park to engrave your initials on the wooden benches. (\$5-\$10 per person)

Mid-Day Sips and Deserts

Not too far off campus, Tropical Smoothie Cafe can be found tucked in between Dominos and Qdoba. Tropical Smoothie offers a ton of different smoothie flavors, from sweet smoothies, to more healthy smoothies, and a seasonal menu. Tropical Smoothie offers a great treat for students to grab

before walking around Big Rapids or talking with friends. Besides smoothies, they also offer food menu items such as Avocado Grilled Cheese, if you're looking to add a healthy fat into your meals, and buffalo chicken wraps, if you prefer a spicy snack. (\$5-\$15 per person)

Don't let the name fool you. Toppings Frozen Yogurt offers more than just frozen yogurt. This sweet shack is located near the edge of downtown Big Rapids. Toppings offers a wide variety of sweet treats such as Mochi and Frozen Yogurt as well as lemonade slushes and cheesecakes. For those who prefer to try out new things while looking for a trendy post for Instagram, Toppings offers a wide variety of Bubble Tea. With a ton of different syrup flavors and boba flavors, students can stick with a typical strawberry flavor and strawberry boba, or switch it up with a milk tea and popping orange boba. (\$5-\$10 per person)

Evening Outings and Dates

Crankers is a bar/restaurant that is found going into town, about a 15-minute walk from campus. Crankers offers live music and even karaoke nights for customer entertainment. It has a double-sided menu with appetizers and main course meals. Due to the nature of the restaurant, Crankers is a perfect spot to see some familiar faces. If you are looking to make some friends, chances are you might see them next time you go to Crankers at the next karaoke event. (\$10-\$20 per person)

Past the downtown area, the Gypsy Nickel can be found. If you are looking for a nicer restaurant for a special occasion, this may be the place for you. With a modern yet rustic-looking interior the Gypsy Nickel offers a wide variety

of food and a very friendly staff. During the warmer months, there is patio seating available with

lights on the patio during the nighttime. If you are looking for a walk after dinner, the Gypsy Nickel is

located right next to a nature path that leads right into the Hemlock Park. (\$10-\$20 per person)



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A tale of two presidents

The Student Government Association's president and vice president switch roles



Photo Courtesy of Hannah Crouch

Student Government Association Vice President Cassidy Engels (left) and President Dylan Andrews (right) assume their new positions at the annual SGA gala.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

The Student Government Association's president and vice president are switching roles for the upcoming year, and president-elect Dylan Andrews has big plans.

Taking over as president is applied math and computer science senior, Dylan Andrews, who was the vice president this past year. Taking over for vice president was this year's president medical laboratory science senior, Cassidy Engels. According to Engels, this switch has rarely happened in SGA history.

The inauguration took place in the David Eisler Center Ballrooms where President Bill Pink, SGA members and their parents gathered to celebrate the end of the current school year. During this time, Andrews and Engels were asked to repeat the SGA oath of office, before becoming the president and vice president of SGA for the upcoming year.

After his inauguration, Andrews said a few words about his hope for students as he takes over as president of SGA.

"I will make it so possible that any student can come to us with any issue, to which my administration and my wonderful General Assembly will work diligently to write a piece of legislation that we will vote on," Andrews said. "We will bring it to whoever need be in order to get it enacted. My Student Government is your student government. Bring to me all your

troubles and woes and I will try to seek the solutions that we wish for by the oath that I took today on behalf of my God, I will not falter on this message."

Andrews explained that he has several plans in the works for his presidency, one of which will change finance with SGA.

"You can't just propose a budget with no sustenance," Andrews said. "And to be quite frank, that won't be tolerated in my finance di-

"This is going to be one of the best presidencies that has ever been within the Student Government," president-elect Dylan Andrews said.

vision. Students pay into this. It's not fair that the students' money goes to something without a plan."

Engels commented on how she feels about switching her position on SGA, as well as how she feels Andrews will do as he takes on the role of president.

"I think Dylan [Andrews] and I are like a yin and a yang," Engels

said. "Like, we have good things that help each other and encourage each other, and our personality traits do differ a lot, but that kind of is the beauty of it. It's kind of the ideal situation that he would rather have the presidential duties and I would rather have the vice-presidential duties, so it's kind of like we're just moving into our destined spots."

Andrews has other plans for the future of SGA; however he chose not to share the specifics of what they are. He explained that he doesn't want to make promises that he can't fulfill for students.

Engels explained her thoughts on how the upcoming year might look with the members of SGA.

"I'm also really excited about next year just because our members are the bomb," Engels said.

Engels also had no comment on the plans for the next year. Following Andrews' philosophy, the new SGA administration wants to "follow through" with their plans and goals instead of promoting any promises that may not come to fruition.

Andrews did explain his optimism for the upcoming year, as he takes on the role of SGA president.

"This is going to be one of the best presidencies that has been ever within the student government," Andrews said. "I will win at every turn that I possibly can for the students. I want to set it up so I do everything in my power so that they have the power to make it their university."



Photo Courtesy of Hannah Crouch

Dylan Andrews (left) and Cassidy Engels (right) take the SGA oath of office.

Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

Editor's Statement

Giuliana Denicolo
Culture Editor

As the first year of the Torch's culture section comes to a wrap, I've made a list of goals I want to reach for its future.

Next year, I hope to welcome more cultural groups and RSOs

into this section. I want to be able to showcase their campus events, perspectives, customs and more.

The goal is to have this section be for everyone. I want to work towards creating good relationships with these groups so they feel heard and are able to come to the

Torch with any ideas they have.

Aside from the fun aspects of all the different groups we have on campus, I want to dive deep into the history, worldwide issues and current events as well. I want all communities to feel welcomed, and I strive for this section to be another place for students to tell

their stories and share their insights.

I would also love to talk more about pop culture, trends, fashion and what our generation really cares about. This section should be fun, interesting and educational. An example of this is Campus Craze, a segment I created last

fall. I would love to bring it back more often throughout the next year.

If you have any topics that you feel are important to write about in this section, please let the Torch know. We are always open to ideas, and we to help this section live up to its name.

Stay stylin'

Summer 2023 fashion trends

Giuliana Denicolo
Culture Editor

The time has come when spring is finally melting into summer. This is the season to relax and feel good. And like most people say, when you look good, you feel good. So, here are some fashion trends that will get you looking and feeling like your best self this summer,

So far this year, bright colors have been in. Clothes, accessories, shoes and anything else imaginable have been vibrant over the past couple of months. This trend will stay popular throughout the summer.

Pinks, oranges and yellows are often seen together. This summer, these warm and fun colors are popular in swimwear.

Another summer essential this year is linen and crochet. These fabrics are light and breezy and will keep you looking hot and feeling cool.

Linen pants and coverups will be one of the most on-trend ways to wear this fabric. It makes you look classy and keeps you comfortable. Crocheted maxi dresses and swimsuit tops are gaining popular-

ity. Similar because this style is an effortless way to stay comfortable, cool and cute.

Accessorizing is one of the best ways to spice up any outfit. Gold jewelry has been in trend for years, but according to Marie Claire Magazine, silver is back in.

Along with jewelry, hair accessories are also finding their way into style for summer 2023. Hair jewels and charms are coming back and falling under the Y2K look. Claw clips have been in trend for a while and the 90s-inspired accessory is staying.

Lastly, matching sets are timeless. This trend is so versatile and can be mixed and matched while keeping you comfortable and looking put together. According to The Mother Chic, a fashion blog, matching sets have come full circle from feeling like a toddler outfit.

The one thing all of these summer 2023 trends have in common is the minimal effort they take to enhance a comfortable and basic look. These trends will make you feel and look great, and you don't even have to lift a finger.



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Big Rapids in the summer

What is there to do?

Marlow Losey
Copy Editor

Thursday night trivia

Every Thursday from 7-9:30 p.m., Sawmill Saloon welcomes Big Rapids great food and drinks while showing what you know in trivia. You may participate by yourself, or assemble a team of as many as you would like to participate. This is free to participate in, and the top three winners may expect a prize.

Check out this event at:

Sawmill Saloon, 1003 Maple St, Big Rapids, CA (231) 796-9812

Pride at the park

On June 25, Pride Big Rapids will host their second annual pride event. Similar to the year before, the event welcomes several tents selling pride related crafts and food vendors. Food vendors include Icebox Brand, The Lemonade Trailer, The Yellow Window, Maria's Comfort Kitchen, Happy Jack's Kettlecorn and Zendoodles.

There will be live music performances throughout the day, featuring performers DeeDee Chaunte, Raised On Radio, Pride BR Choir, and DJ Monica Parker. At the end of the night, Big Rapids celebrates pride with a drag performance.

Northend Riverside Park, Trestle Bend Dr, Big Rapids, MI 49307, USA

Discovering Traditions: Landscape painting exhibit and reception

Starting April 11 until June 30, Artworks in Big Rapids is hosting a daily landscape painting exhibit. They welcome all students and the public to join them any time between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To the Artworks community, landscape art is an international tradition in which humans want to understand their surroundings on the page. To celebrate this, they feature artists such as Anthony Cairo, Katie Mester, James Roberts and Tom Tomasek. Check out

this event at:

Artworks, 106 N Michigan Ave, Big Rapids, MI (231) 796-2420

Big Rapids farmer's market

Every Tuesday and Friday from May to Oct., the city of Big Rapids hosts a local farmer's market. Vendors are welcome to bring in food from their farm to downtown. From 9 a.m.-3 p.m., you can find fresh garden produce sold down the streets of Big Rapids. Along with food, the market is expected to bring crafts, plants and more.

Check out this event at:

Downtown Big Rapids, 226 N. Michigan Ave, Big Rapids, MI (231) 592-4038

Barryton Lilac Festival

The Barryton Lilac Festival is held annually during the first weekend of each June. This event will be held June 2 through June 4 in the downtown area of Barryton, close to Big Rapids. The small-town festival is focused on family-friendly activities in an alcohol-free environment.

On Friday and Saturday, the festival will host area-wide yard sales, a museum, a library book sale, a carnival, a pig roast and a family movie night under the stars. ThroughOut the festival on Saturday, there also will be a parade with a car and bike show, a street

dance and fireworks at the end of the day.

On Sunday, the festival ends with area-wide yard sales, a 5k run, a marketplace, a carnival and a chili cook-off.



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager



Torch Tunes

Some summer songs to soothe the soul

Evan Hubbard
Freelance Reporter

A new season means a new playlist from the Ferris State Torch Tunes.

Fruitcake – Subsonic Eye

The first song on this list comes from Subsonic Eye, a five-piece indie group from Singapore that blends Midwest emo and math rock-style riffs with the lilting voice of singer Nur Wahidah. The subtly complex grooves and riffs in the song fit perfectly for sitting outside in a hammock on a sunny day with a good book.

“Space Junk” – Wang Chung

This selection actually comes from our web editor, Lucas, who wrote a tv guide for the summer. His guide includes “The Walking Dead”, the show responsible for this song is so popular. “Space Junk” notably plays at the end of

the first episode and has become sort of synonymous with the show, earning its place on this list.

The song is a late hit for Wang Chung, whose biggest hit was the 1986 classic, “Everybody Have Fun Tonight”. This track instead was released as a bonus track on their 1997 greatest hits album and became a cult classic after its use on “The Walking Dead”.

“3D Country” – Geese

The Brooklyn five-piece returns to release the first song from their new album after their 2021 debut garnered mostly positive reviews. When I first heard their debut song “Projector,” I was immediately excited to hear what they would do later on. Their new singles have not disappointed at all.

From the beginning of the song, it’s immediately clear that the new album will have a much different tone and sound than the debut. Whereas “Projector” had some very obvious post-punk and dance influences, the new singles seem to suggest that “3D Country” will majorly lean on the influence of soul and R&B music, as evidenced by the crew of backup singers in both new singles.

“Red Moon” – Big Thief

The Brooklyn-based alt-rock group dropped one of the best albums of 2022. It was so stacked that even if you listened to the album, you might not remember this song just because there are about eight different songs that could arguably be “the best.”

This one feels to me like one of the most fun selections off the new album, a record that notably takes its time with the listener and isn’t afraid to slow things down or tackle sadder issues. In a record full of slower, more intricate and personal stories, “Red Moon” serves as a fun alternative-country option to brighten up your day.

“Not Strong Enough” – boygenius

The final selection here comes from the new boygenius album which I can not stop playing. The best single from one of the best albums so far this year, “Not Strong Enough” is a good song to play as the bonfire is dying down and people are starting to trickle out.

The indie supergroup returned from a five-year absence this year with their first full-length album since their 2018 was just an EP collection of six songs. The new album titled “the record” doesn’t disappoint, and neither does this song.

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Shows to stream this summer

Recommended shows that are streaming now

Lucas Gill
Web Editor

With the academic year over, many students are looking forward to having time to relax and unwind. Here are some recommendations for a few of my favorite shows that are currently streaming now.

Ted Lasso- Apple TV

"Ted Lasso" is an American sports comedy-drama television series developed by Jason Sudeikis, Bill Lawrence, Brendan Hunt and Joe Kelly. Lasso, an American college football coach, is hired to coach the English soccer team, AFC Richmond.

What Ted lacks in experience and knowledge of English football, he makes up for in humor, optimism and determination. The Apple TV exclusive premiered on Aug. 14 of 2020, becoming an instant classic for viewers.

The second season premiered in July of 2021. While the show is about the uphill battle to success for AFC Richmond, the series takes time to develop and flesh out its characters with many great little moments the show has been known for.

Season three premiered on in March 2023. It is currently on its ninth episode for the season, with two more on the way before the series finale. Now is a great time to get into the show before its final season wraps up.

Invincible- Amazon Prime

"Invincible" is an adult animated superhero television series created by Robert Kirkman for Amazon Prime Video. The show is based on the comic series of the same name by Kirkman, Cory Walker, and Ryan Ottley, first published in 2003.

The series premiered on March 25, 2021 and it was met with high praise. "Invincible" follows teenager Mark Grayson, son of Omni-Man, the equivalent to Superman, in a world where heroes stop invasions and prevent crime in everyday life.

The show focuses on Mark when his powers first begin to develop and how he has to manage his everyday life. While this premise sounds familiar to your average superhero story, the show subverts expectations when the Guardians of the Globe, this world's counterpart to the Justice League, is murdered by an unknown force.

This dark mystery is an overarching point that looms over the story as Mark becomes a hero under his father's wing. While it only has one season consisting of eight episodes, the official Prime Video YouTube channel released a teaser for season two in January, hinting at a late 2023 premiere.

The Walking Dead- Netflix

"The Walking Dead" is an American post-apocalyptic horror drama television series based on the comic book series by Robert Kirkman, Tony Moore and Charlie Adlard. The show has gained a

wide audience during its over-a-decade-long run.

The series started airing in 2010 on AMC and just recently finished its eleventh and final season in November 2022. The series mainly follows Rick Grimes, a former sheriff deputy who wakes up from a coma months after the start of a zombie apocalypse.

The show's focus is on how humans adapt and survive in this new world, making communities and fighting for supplies. Part of "The Walking Dead's" success has been from the character writing and development on display. The show has a wide ensemble of characters and antagonists that all play big roles in the post-apocalypse scene.

The success and popularity with mainstream audiences have garnered multiple waves of spin-offs that take place at various times and locations in the same world while tying back to the original series.

Upcoming Spin-offs

The first of these was "Fear the Walking Dead." First broadcast on Aug. 23, 2015, the show features a new set of characters during the early stages of the outbreak as they try to find refuge along the West Coast of the U.S.

The secondary character of Morgan Jones from the main series joins the ensemble in the fourth season. The last two seasons of "Fear the Walking Dead" take place directly after season 8 of the main series storyline.

AMC has been planning on making a few individual, small-scale series that focuses on some of the characters after the events of "The Walking Dead." The first of these is "The Walking Dead: Dead City." This series focuses on Maggie Greene and Negan Smith, played by Lauren Cohen and Jeffrey Dean Morgan respectfully, as they are stranded in post-apocalyptic Manhattan.

The mini-series will consist of six episodes and is scheduled to premiere on June 18 on AMC. The official "The Walking Dead" YouTube channel recently posted a teaser for the series on May 4, 2023.

The next short series like this focuses on fan-favorite Daryl Dixon, played by Norman Reedus. The show follows Reedus' character after he washes ashore in France and tries to find his way back home. AMC revealed the show's official name as "The Walking Dead: Daryl Dixon" in Oct. 2022. This series will also have six episodes in its run and will premiere sometime in late 2023.

The last of these six-episode series follows the characters of Rick Grimes himself and Michonne Hawthorne after the tenth season of the main series. Andrew Lincoln and Danai Gurira returned to reprise their respective roles. The show was revealed to be titled: "The Walking Dead: Rick and Michonne" in April 2023. The series is set to premiere sometime in 2024 on AMC.



Graphic by: Lucas Gill | Web Editor

Overall, I'm excited to see where these highly acclaimed shows will go next. These series are all great ways to spend some free time.

These shows are great in their own ways. I hope this article has convinced some people to consider watching one of these shows,

as they have bright futures ahead of them.

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Opinions

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Editor's Statement



Karissa Lange
Opinions Editor

If you are looking for a topic to get heated about, a good show to binge-watch or even something as simple as learning about fellow students' opinions on various topics, the opinions section is where to be.

My name is Karissa Lange and I am going to be a fourth-year technical communications major (with a specialty in graphic design, if anyone cares to know) in the fall. I am the new opinions editor. While I am not a journalism student, I currently have four Torch special

editions under my belt and am excited to gain more experience in a section that is not as hectic.

I am greatly looking forward to carrying on our previous opinions editor Dylan Rider's plans for the section, through his overall organization and methods to encourage writers to think outside the box. I strive to create a space for fellow Torch staff and outside students. The opinions section will be a comfortable space to share the topics that they love, and think will interest or benefit others.

Former special editions editor Karissa Lange moves to the opinions section.

EDITORS COLUMN:

A bright future

Climbing the ladder into a post-COVID summer

Jessica Oakes
Editor-In-Chief

As I write my first column as editor-in-chief, the headlines read "WHO declares end to global COVID emergency." I have waited years for a day like today.

My entrance into adulthood was marked by restrictions and worry. The surprise ending to my senior year of high school in the fateful March of 2020 stunted my ability to plan my future in the "real world."

That deadly virus and countless instances of political incompetence caused great loss. People lost their jobs and their loved ones. As of May 2023, nearly seven million people have lost their lives to COVID-19. As fortunate as I was to avoid such losses, I did feel as though I lost some of my identity.

Almost instantly, I had no more roles. I was no longer a Roscommon High School student, no longer a band kid, no longer the student body president. I was a young adult trying to find my place in a world that was largely shut down.

I found some purpose for the time being, flipping Blizzards from behind a mask at Dairy Queen and being a terrible dishwasher at a local diner with no indoor seating. To save money and my own peace of mind, I decided to complete my first year of college from home.

I went to my Zoom classes 100 miles away from Ferris' campus with professors I had never met. I only left the house for work or mother-daughter nature walks. As it turns out, being a full-time college student without any vision of the future or even classmates to complain with is a devastating task.

Following the advice of my wonderful journalism professor and advisor, I applied to the Torch in my second virtual semester. I was about to find my place and purpose in college.

For the first time, I found people at Ferris that were similar to me. Reporting helped me connect with people that had interesting and important stories, which I desperately needed after a remarkably un-interesting semester.

It was hard to find news and even harder to



Technical and professional communication senior Jessica Oakes becomes the Torch's editor-in-chief.

write at times, but nothing had ever been more rewarding than seeing my name on the front page with my first ever published article. That, and an endearing "Torchie" award that my first editors decided I deserved.

I received the "Future Cora Award," referring to the Torch's 2020-2021 editor-in-chief. From that point forward, my future was something real. I finally had somewhere to go. I knew that I was able to climb the ladder at the Torch.

Cora Hall now covers University of Tennessee

women's athletics for the Knoxville News Sentinel, and she continues to inspire me. I have had two great years on campus and have learned more than I thought was possible. While I appreciate my professors, nobody has taught me more than Torch editors and reporters.

To Cora, Noah, Marissa, Brendan, Rebecca, Sienna, Giuls and Dylan, thank you for helping me get out of the house. I can not wait to see what the Torch can do this year.

Summer of sports

Take advantage of sporting events this summer



Photo from Torch archives

Supportive Ferris football fans traveled to Texas for the 2022 DII National Championship game.

Dylan Rider
Sports Editor

Summer breaks mean different things to college students. I, for one, believe that summer is a perfect opportunity to load up on sporting events.

College students use summer for so many different things. Travel, reloading bank accounts and catching up with friends and family. A good way of combining all three of these is through sporting events. If you're looking to travel and keep costs low while also sharing great experiences with your friends and family, there are so many options for teams to

watch.

As of writing, the National Hockey League playoffs, National Basketball Association playoffs and Major League Baseball regular season are in full swing. With both Michigan teams out of both playoffs and the closest playoff teams being the Toronto Maple Leafs of the NHL and the Philadelphia 76ers of the NBA, these aren't great options.

However, this still leaves the MLB and its affiliate teams. One of the best things about the MLB is how cheap the tickets can be. A quick look at the resale market shows that tickets for the Detroit Tigers can be under \$20 before

seller's fees and taxes. By the end of the day, you're likely to spend more money driving to and eating at the ballpark than actually getting into the game.

On top of this, the cheap tickets allow for further traveling to watch out-of-state teams. Trips to watch the Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Guardians and Milwaukee Brewers are all within reach for people who do not mind a few hours in a car.

For those who aren't interested in a long-ish car ride to Detroit or any out-of-state team, Michigan has many lower-level baseball teams that can be a lot closer.

Teams like the West Michi-

gan Whitecaps (Grand Rapids), Lansing Lugnuts and the Great Lakes Loons (Midland) make up the Minor League Baseball teams in Michigan. Alongside them, the Kalamazoo Growlers, Traverse City Pit Spitters and the Battle Creek Battle Jacks comprise Summer Collegiate Baseball of the Northwoods League in Michigan.

These smaller teams don't have the same atmosphere of a pro ballpark. Nothing can beat Wrigley Field erupting into cheers after a Javier Báez home run, I tell you. But these smaller minor league ballparks still offer a fun and entertaining environment. You are more likely to be involved in some

of the activities put on by the minor league ballparks than the major league ballparks.

Now, I understand sports aren't for everyone. However, even for casual or non-sports fans, I definitely think it's worth a shot. I can not stress how much you would be missing out if you put yourself past these sporting events.

Whatever you choose to watch this summer, be it major or minor league. Be it playoff hockey or playoff basketball. I highly suggest using this summer as a way to get back out there and see sports events at the highest or second-highest level. Get out there and play ball.

Lover of the summer

Why this season is the best of them all

Giuliana Denicolo
Culture Editor

With the warm sun hitting my face when I sit by the pool drinking a fruity ice-cold drink, I've come to realize that summer is the best time of the year for a college student.

As I'm getting older and don't have many summer breaks left, I've been thinking hard about the four months most students get off and why it deserves the hype.

First, I'll start off with how winter feels like the longest season of all. Even though I've lived in the Midwest my entire life, I still am never prepared for the brutal cold and heavy snow we get. Aside from the gloomy, miserable weather, the semester starts to feel impossible. Walking to class, driving anywhere and staying motivated to study and

do homework becomes even harder when the weather feels gross.

I do understand the love for all of the seasons. There's something redeemable about them all. I don't know if I could live in a place without all four of them, but that's why my appreciation for summer is so strong.

When the first warm day of the year arrives, I can feel the anticipation for better weather and the time off. Which leads me to why May is the best month of the year. Let's set the scene. Imagine after a long four months of working hard to pass your classes, you get the longest break of the school year. During this break, you get to take walks, go on picnics, swim and just be active outside.

Summer gives me the chance to sleep in, recoup after a long school year and feel like the best

version of myself. My stress melts away along with the snow and ice, and I finally get to enjoy the world around me without worrying about the grade I'm going to get on a 20-page paper I had to write.

For me and a lot of other students, school is one of our biggest stressors. Since the summer is the only time I don't have to deal with classes or homework, it already beats the other three seasons by far.

Aside from getting to relax and recharge, there are so many things to do over the summer. Getting to be outside opens the door to a bunch of fun activities. I feel so fit and active during this season just by doing basic summer things like riding my bike. Overall, I'm a lot happier during the warmer months of the year, and I'd have to say I'm not alone in this.



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

The summer gives most of us time dedicated to leisure and catching up with family and hometown friends. Even though a lot of people get summer jobs, all responsibilities feel lighter because this time of year is much more laid back.

The sun shines for longer, the air is warmer and I feel and look healthier and happier. Summer is the best time of the year, for a col-

lege student, because it gives us time to remember who we are outside of school. So, if you're someone who hates the heat and has no idea what to do with yourself during this time, then go outside, close your eyes and take a deep breath. The love for summer will come to you. Honestly, how could it not?

Sports

Dylan Rider | Sports Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu



Previous Opinions Editor Dylan Rider takes on the role of Sports Editor.

Following the departure (and graduation) of my predecessor and friend Brody Keiser, I am for-

Editor's Statement

Dylan Rider
Sports Editor

tunate enough to take on the role of the Torch's sports editor.

My name is Dylan Rider. I was formerly the opinions editor and have been reporting for sports for two years. Now, I run the sports section. I'm a junior majoring in sports communication with minors in multimedia journalism and history.

Under Keiser, the sports section flourished into what it is now. To me, the sports sections represents a machine consistently pumping out some of the best stories the Torch has to offer.

However, what's a machine without a few upgrades and repairs? Our sports section is good, but it can most definitely be taken to another level. That's what I am striving to do with my team next year.

Eliminating game recaps: One trap our section can and has fallen into is recapping the events we cover. This is not what we should be about. Sports is such a narrative-driven subject. We intend to strive to find the importance in the story while letting you know all the details.

Finding the right people to write the best stories: Our section has lost most of our longtime stalwarts (Joe Nagy and Brandon Wirth, thank you for your contributions through the years). On the bright side, this allows the section to be injected with new blood. Alongside this, I'd like our sports section to be less of a boys club. We're pushing to find more female writers for the section.

Expanding our athletics coverage while streamlining it: We want to give everyone their shot at making it in the paper. This can be

difficult. The plan for this is simple. I intend on eliminating our scorecard that we feature at the bottom of the page while turning it into a smaller, more streamlined section for quick highlights for athletics that don't take center stage for us.

I hope you're as excited as I am for this upcoming year. I only think our section can improve and that's what we intend to do.



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Top Athletes of the 2022-23 Seasons

Dylan Purcey
Sports Reporter

Men's Teams:

Football - Caleb Murphy

Murphy was a finalist for the Harlon Hill trophy this year, which is awarded to the nation's top DII player. In his 15 games played, he racked up 93 tackles, 39 tackles for loss and an astounding, NCAA record-breaking 25.5 sacks on the season.

Basketball - Solomon Oraegbu

Oraegbu had multiple 30+ point games during the season. In 32 games, Oraegbu averaged 18.2 points, 4.1 rebounds, 1.8 assists, while shooting 51.3% from the field, 41.7% from the three-point line and 81.6 from the free-throw line.

Hockey - Jason Brancheau

In 36 games played, he had 21 points, 13 goals, 8 assists, while limiting himself to 14 penalty min-

utes. In his 13 goals, three of them were power-play goals.

Tennis - Erik Kovacs

Kovacs earned the GLIAC's Freshman of the Year award. Kovacs has a 13 - 9 singles record and a 15 - 6 doubles record. He finished the season undefeated in conference doubles play.

Golf - Caleb Bond

Bond was just named the GLIAC Freshman of the Year, as well as being honored with All-GLIAC First Team accolades. Bond totaled six top-10 tournament finishes, including helping the Bulldogs to their 18th NCAA Division II Tournament berth in the last 20 years.

Track and Field - Tyler Shafley

Shafley shined in the 800 meter relay. He officially ended with five top 10 finishes in the 800 meter event. His best performance on the season was at the Bob Eubanks Open, where he won with a time just under 2 minutes at 1:59.44.

Cross Country - Donis Harris

Harris placed 40th at the Greater Louisville Classic and 25th in the Warrior Challenge. He finished the season strong, as he placed 28th at the GLIAC Championship, and 58th at the NCAA Midwest Regional Finals.

Women's Teams:

Basketball - Chloe Idoni

Idoni was named to the All-GLIAC first team. Idoni played in 29 games where she averaged 19.3 points, 7.6 rebounds and 1.8 assists. Her shooting was impressive too, shooting 48.8% from the field, 30% from the three-point line and 82.4% from the free-throw line.

Volleyball - Kaylee Maat

Maat goes down as third all time in assists for Ferris State volleyball, amassing a whopping 1,490 assists. In 36 matches played this year, Maat had a team leading 77

Service Aces, was fifth in digs at 371, and averaged almost 11 assists per match.

Soccer - Isabella Zamborini

Zamborini's year was honored with All-GLIAC First Team honors as a forward. In 24 games, she amassed 13 goals, six assists and 32 points. Zamborini also provided the Bulldogs with five game winning goals.

Tennis - Sofie Daavettala

Daavettala continues to improve her singles and doubles skills. She finished with a total of eight singles wins and six doubles wins, earning her All-GLIAC First Team honors.

Softball - Kaitlyn Orme

Orme led the team this year in slugging percentage at a .437 clip. Orme also led the team in triples with seven, ranking fourth in the conference. With 53 games played, she had a batting average of .310, one home run, 18 runs batted in and 16 stolen bases.

Golf - Alayna Eldred

Eldred hopes to continue her impressive play, as she placed sixth overall in the UMSL Spring Invite just last month. She helped lead the Bulldogs to the first GLIAC Championship since 2007.

Track and Field - Danae Feldpausch

Feldpausch was one of the top runners in the 800-meter events. She placed within the top 10 in the event a total of five different times, including winning it at all at the SVSU Tune-Up Meet and the Hilltopper Relays.

Cross Country - Hanna Brock

Brock's top performance of the year was at the Ray Helsing Bulldog Invitational, where she finished at a time just past 19 minutes. Brock also had a strong showing at the GLIAC championship and regionals, finishing 22nd and 42nd respectively. She was honored by being on the All-GLIAC 2nd team.

Championship commemoration

Revisiting the best Ferris sports moments from this year

Brandon Wirth
Sports Reporter

This academic year in athletics was filled with a lot of new: a new president, a new head coach and a new performance facility. However, one thing hasn't changed in Ferris sports: a winning culture.

These are some program-defining moments the Bulldogs saw in 2023:

1. Football goes back-to-back

One year after avenging their 2018 loss to the Blazers, Ferris crushed Colorado School of Mines 41-14 at McKinney ISD Stadium in Texas. Led behind one of the most dominant championship performances in DII history, the Bulldogs became the fourth team

ever to win consecutive national championships and obtained the largest margin of victory amongst the four feats.

2. Women's soccer reaches Final Four for first time

Ferris battled through snow, negative temperatures and two top-10 ranked teams in Division II to reach their first national semi-final in program history. The Bulldogs won two games virtue of penalty kicks, the most among all 64 teams in the tournament and the only team road team to win in that fashion.

3. Women's golf breaks 16-year drought

The Bulldogs won their first GLIAC tournament title since 2007 after defeating defending champs

Grand Valley State University and underdog Saginaw Valley State University. Ferris clinched the title through a school record performance in the stroke play opening round and an individual 18-hole scoring performance by junior Alayna Eldred.

4. Volleyball downs Lakers in GLIAC Championship thriller

In their potential final match in a packed Wink Arena, Ferris defeated Grand Valley State University 19-17 in a fifth-set decider to win their ninth conference championship in program history. The Bulldogs overcame a 0-6 start to the season to win 26 of their next 30 games, a regular season conference title, and reach their second-straight regional final match.

5. Hockey wins first playoff game since 2016

Thanks to overtime winners by sophomore Nick Nardecchia and senior Jason Brancheau, the Bulldogs fought off the hosting Falcons of Bowling Green State University to win their first Mason Cup playoff win since the CCHA was re-established. Ferris finished the season with 18 victories, including a road sweep of nationally ranked Minnesota State University and a GLI semi-final win over Michigan State University.

6. Men's tennis takes number 20

Ferris tennis earned their sixth GLIAC title over the last eight years following the men's undefeated conference schedule sweep. The men's team finished 21st in the

DII Intercollegiate Tennis Association rankings and boasted a 23rd overall ranked pairing of Benjamin Lortie and Jan Koupil.

7. Cross country and track & field records historic year

Bulldog running not only obtained their best team finishes in almost ten years at the DII Midwest Cross Country Regional Championship, but also picked up the highest combined point total in both indoor and outdoor GLIAC Championships since at least 2010. This season included four broken school records, five top-five marks in program history and four GLIAC all-conference medalists.

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