

The Ferris State Torch

92 YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of Oct. 18 - Oct. 25

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ANCHORED DOWN

#1 Ferris State upset by rival #4 Grand Valley 49-28



Photo credit: Dylan Rider | Sports Editor

Jeffery Walker
Sports Reporter

The #1 ranked Ferris State Bulldogs lost in a top-five matchup to #4 ranked Grand Valley in the Anchor-Bone Classic at Lubbers Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Following their win versus Saginaw Valley last week, the Bulldogs (4-2, 2-1 in conference) hoped to pick up where they left off, but it did not happen for the Bulldogs as they got off to a slow start offensively and defensively that led to the Lakers upset. The Bulldogs loss hands the Lakers their fifth straight win of the season (5-1, 2-0 in conference), and the Lakers have now defeated the Bulldogs two times in a row in the regular season.

Head coach Tony Annese acknowledged the environment the Bulldogs were in while supporting his team despite the loss.

"It's really a tough place to play at when you're down 35-0," Annese said. "I'm proud of our guys,

we fought back and cut it to 35-28. Give [the Lakers] credit, they drove down and scored on us which was a big score. Our kids never quit"

The Bulldogs gave up 35 unanswered points in the first and second quarters before finally getting a score and gaining some type of momentum. Starting senior quarterback Mylik Mitchell and the Bulldogs offense struggled in the first half. Mitchell was replaced by sophomore quarterback Carson Gulker following six ineffective drives, two of which resulted in either an interception or an interception returned for a touchdown.

The Bulldogs first score came midway through the second quarter. Senior wide-receiver Xavier Wade caught a 24-yard touchdown pass from Gulker as the Bulldogs now looked to get a major comeback. With 1:33 left to go in the first half, senior wide-receiver Tyrese Hunt-Thompson caught a 16-yard touchdown pass from Gulker. After the defense forced a huge turnover, sophomore

wide-receiver Deion Small would score on a 37-yard touchdown run with 1:12 left in the first half to cut the Laker lead to 35-21.

Hunt-Thompson explained the game-plan for a comeback.

"I think the goal was to just try to get the ball in our playmaker's hands," Hunt-Thompson said. "Which we didn't do enough. That's always the goal whether it's me or someone else."

With momentum in favor of the Bulldogs growing following half-time, junior defensive-back Solento Smith came up with an interception on the Laker's first drive of the second half.

Following the interception, Small took a vicious hit which paused the game completely. Smith was lying on the field for minutes before being stretchered off. A statement from Ferris State football gave an update on Small's condition.

"We are happy to report that [Small] is doing well and hope to have him home with his Bulldog Family soon," the statement read.

The game began again with the Bulldogs' drive stalling out and ending with a missed field-goal. With Mitchell back in the game, Hunt-Thompson delivered on a 10-yard touchdown pass to make it a one score game. The Bulldogs would fall short of completing the comeback as the Lakers would score two more touchdowns and the Bulldogs got shut out in the fourth quarter.

Hunt-Thompson gave insight into what the conversation with the team was when they were down by multiple scores.

"Just stick together, we're a brotherhood," Hunt-Thompson said. "Not just during good times, so the conversation was to keep a level head and fight back, which we did."

The Bulldogs fought to the end but could not overcome the huge deficit, and a lot of that had to do with them getting in their own way. The Bulldogs had 16 penalties for 129 yards compared to the Laker's 5 penalties for 45 yards. On

top of the interceptions, Mitchell was sacked six times for a combined 57 yards lost.

Annese referenced the slow start along with the penalties as two things the Bulldogs could not overcome.

"The bottom line is [that there's] two things that you just can't overcome," Annese said. "It's just a slow start. They made every play they could make, and we didn't make any plays in the first half. Then [there are] the penalties. I don't know how many drive-killing penalties we had but that's just overwhelmingly hard to overcome."

The Bulldogs season is far from over they will look to fix their mistakes and get back to winning and look for this matchup once again come playoff time.

Next, the Bulldogs hit the road again to take on Michigan Tech in another inner conference matchup on Oct. 21 at Kearly Stadium with gametime set for 1 p.m.

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News

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

Historic location being restored

New additions coming to downtown Big Rapids



Photo credit: Tate Zellman | News Reporter

Luckyspot dispensary opens next to Star Shooters, one of three new projects coming to Historic Downto

Tate Zellman
News Reporter

As of this week, an alumni group of community developers are bringing three new additions to Star Shooters, a bar located in downtown Big Rapids.

The new additions are set to take place on the second floor of the bar. These include a dispensary, a coffee shop and a venue/hall for socialization and fun events.

The head of the community developers is Marc Robert, who graduated from Ferris in 1995 with a degree in business administration.

Robert began selling cannabis at the age of fourteen. He brought the team together to help grow his customer base.

Luckyspot

The first new addition is a dispensary called Luckyspot. Despite it being a challenge, Robert knew that a dispensary was something he and his team wanted to bring to Star Shooters.

"Big Rapids is the most difficult place to operate a successful dispensary in the nation," Robert said. "We knew this quite well, however we were not scared to open in this very structured market. The reason we were confident we could still succeed in this tough environment is because we believe that we will be the first dispensary to open in Big Rapids that is focused on being a community partner, rather than just another place to pick up your cannabis."

The Roasted Insomniac

The second new addition is called The Roasted Insomniac, a shop where people can grab themselves some coffee, a muffin and other breakfast foods and drinks.

One of the community developers, Ferris alumnus Ralph Lang, has high hopes that the location will become more than a simple breakfast spot.

"On behalf of the Roasted Insomniac, the dream is to see the big building above Star Shooters become a creative incubator for collaborative works between local schools, colleges, businesses and community members," Lang said.

Acacia Place

The third and final addition is called Acacia Place, a setting that will be used as a venue and banquet hall for public events.

According to Robert, a wide variety of events have the potential to be held at Acacia Place.

"This space can now be used for weddings, banquets, formal, conferences, movie nights and live music or entertainment," Robert said.

As a matter of fact, Acacia Place is having American rapper and singer Sada Baby perform a concert on Oct. 21.

Robert and his team are pleased they were able to put Acacia together.

"We believe that is something that is really lacking in Big Rapids and Ferris," said Robert. "A safe space for everyone to gather and socialize together no matter who are you or where you come from."

A historic location

The location for these new businesses holds sentimental and cultural value for Ferris graduates.

Mason Lodge, what used to be The Masonic Lodge, held some of Ferris' first classes and first graduation ceremonies. Also, Woodbridge N. Ferris was the Grand Mason of the building during that time.

"We assisted Jerry Bowman, the building owner and owner of Star Shooters, a little bit in the restoration of the second floor of the building that was built in the late 1800s and early 1900s," Robert said. "Bringing back this historic place for the community is why we decided to locate Luckyspot on the second floor above Shooters."

According to Robert, Bowman had just finished restoring the building as Robert and his team

offered to help reopen the lodge which had the name The Masonic Lodge. This gave the team the opportunity to bring back the historical location.

"The big dream for us at Luckyspot has been to bring a fresh deep breath to the building that was significant part of the heartbeat for over 100 years," Lang said. "To be poetic and yet honest, a chance to bring the historical significance of the old fur-

niture store and Masonic Lodge to play and tie it into everything we're doing feels like an honor."

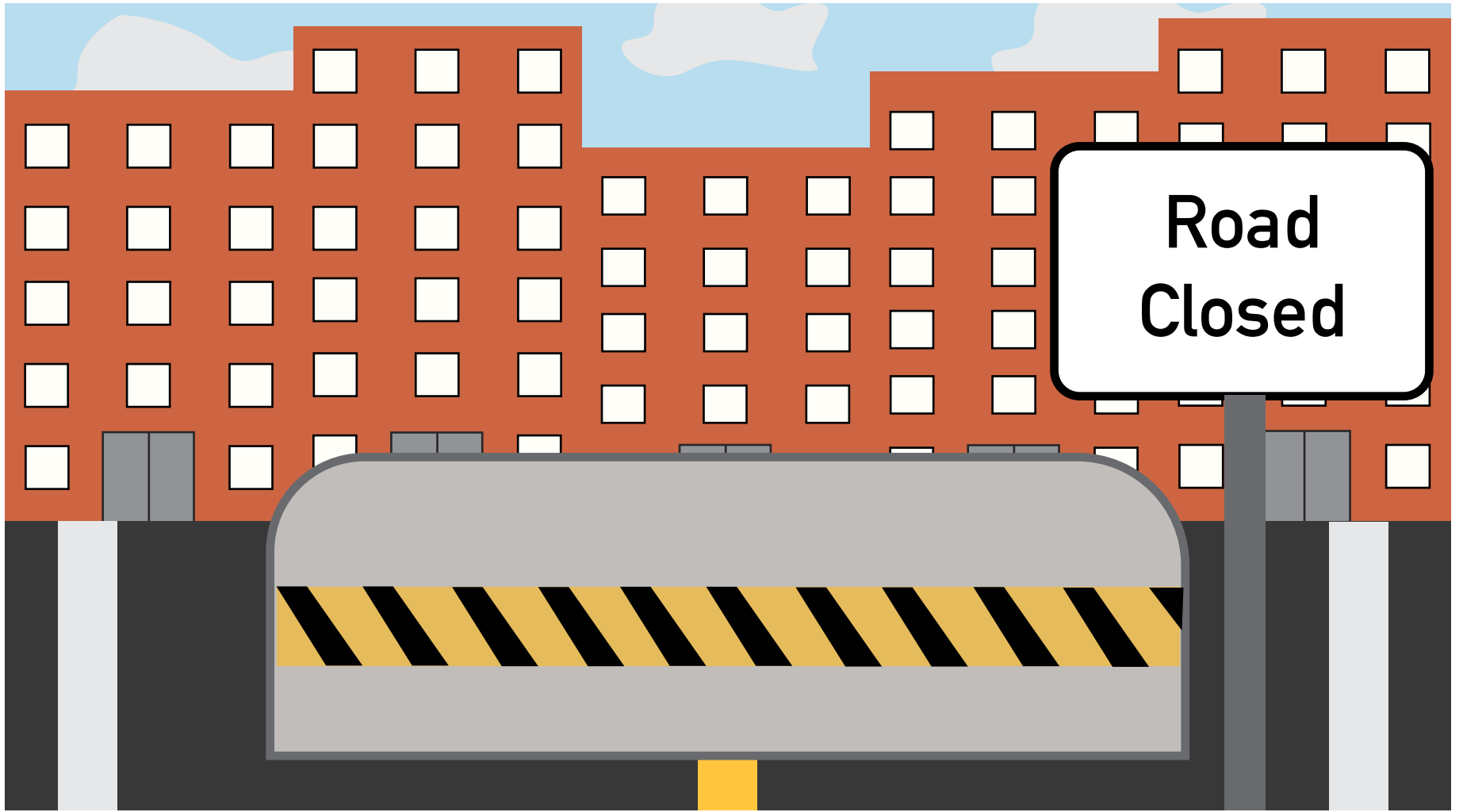
Star Shooters is located at 120 South Michigan Ave, Big Rapids, MI. Opening hours are 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, and 12 p.m. to 2 a.m. every Friday and Saturday.



Photo credit: Tate Zellman | News Reporter

Including Luckyspot, there are over a dozen dispensaries functioning in Big Rapids.

Gas leak in Big Rapids



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

Ethan Edsall
News Reporter

A gas leak closed off a portion of North State Street near West Avenue last Tuesday, Oct. 10.

At the time members of the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety, including the police and fire departments, closed the street down to any incoming or outgoing traffic.

Residents of Big Rapids living along North State Street reported smelling gas coming from somewhere along the street.

Residents called emergency services who immediately responded to the situation with representatives from members of the DTE

Big Rapids branch. First responders immediately responded to the situation by alerting residents that there was a gas leak and sending out an alert to the community that North State Street that there was a gas leak and the roads would be closing.

After the alert was sent out, members of the Big Rapids Fire Department worked with members of the DTE Big Rapids branch worked together to locate the source of the leak.

As soon as the source of the leak was found the gas company shut off the valve so that the gas company could begin to fix the broken gas valve. After the DTE

workers got the leak under control the Big Rapids Fire Department opened back up N. State St. and updated the department's Facebook page with an all clear and that it was okay for traffic to continue along North State Street.

While students and residents might be feeling worried about the gas leak, members of the township were quick to assure the public that the issue had been resolved.

"It was not that serious," Bill Stanek of the Big Rapids township office said. "We had to close off the roads so that the gas company could do its job."

While the situation was not that

serious, some students that were in the area were unsure of what was happening at the time.

"It was really weird seeing all the emergency responders out there," social work sophomore Sydney Hill said. "I was told that there was a gas leak, and that the road was closed off but there wasn't a lot more information being told."

Hill described how there were police cars and fire trucks in the area but she had to get to class. Hill ended up going to class for a couple of hours and when she left to go home, Hill reported that the roads had opened back up.

In the end, the area was closed to outgoing and incoming traffic

because members of the public recorded smelling a gas leak in the area. Members of the DTE Big Rapids branch along with first responders from Big Rapids Township responded to a gas leak in the area surrounding West Avenue.

North State Street was shut down for a couple of hours so that the first responders could find the source of the leak and repair the damage. It re-opened to traffic within a couple of hours.

Members of the DTE Big Rapids branch and representatives from the Big Rapids Public Safety office could not be reached for a comment at this time.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Michigan: DTE announced Thursday that they will no longer be automatically enrolling customers in paperless billing.

DTE put the automatic enrollment in the eBill program in effect in 2019. This was in an effort to reduce the amount of paper waste that comes from paper bills, according to The Detroit Free Press.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel sent a letter to the chair of the Michigan Public Service Commission on Oct. 6, asking for the eBill automatic enrollment policy to be investigated. According to Nessel, customers were automatically enrolled in the program, and the opt out button was placed at the bottom of an email.

"Despite our positive intentions,

our execution missed the mark," a DTE spokesperson said. "We appreciate concerns raised by the Attorney General, and moving forward we will encourage customers to opt in to participate in the eBill program, but we will not proactively opt in customers who do not take action to opt out."

According to the Detroit News DTE reversed their decision.

"My office strives to protect consumer pocketbooks and to ensure that customers are treated fairly," Nessel said. "This was an unfair practice that piled late fees and shutoff notices onto unsuspecting gas and electricity customers just as the weather began to turn..."

DTE announced that they would be reimbursing customers who have late fees after DTE switched their billing from paper to digital.

GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Australia: The Australian government denied a vote to expand the rights of indigenous people.

The vote, turned down by all six states, decided whether the constitution should be amended to give First Nation people a voice in their government, according to BBC News.

This proposal, The Voice to Parliament, was created by indigenous teachers in 2017. It is the first since 1999 that a document has been proposed to recognize indigenous people. It is also the 45th time that Australia has attempted to change its constitution.

Some said that the proposal would help with the inequality indigenous people are facing. The opposition said that the proposal would still mean inequality or said that they would prefer a treaty instead.

After the vote was finished, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese commented on the issue.

"This moment of disagreement does not define us, and it will not divide us, we are not Yes voters or No voters, we are all Australians," Albanese said. "And it is as Australians together, that we must take our country beyond this debate, without forgetting why we had it in the first place."



Alumni join BAMF health



Photo courtesy of Andy McLean

Number of alumni at treatment center increases

Tate Zellman
News Reporter

As of recent, the number of Ferris alumni joining a cancer treatment center in Grand Rapids has grown to support a new cancer diagnosis.

Class of 2009 graduate, Ferris State University Doctor of Pharmacy alumnus Matt DeLong has joined fellow alums at the recently established Bold Advanced Medical Future Health in Grand Rapids.

He came to join other Ferris alums to help care for, treat and support cancer. He's currently the BAMF's vice president of Radiopharmacy.

According to DeLong, he became a staff member of BAMF because of the opportunities to draw all his experiences throughout his career; but also to join a team alongside fellow alumni that are involved with the Ferris community and have career skills developed post-graduation.

"The BAMF Health team includes over a dozen Ferris and Kendall Alumni that spread across all of the teams," DeLong said. "The team is engaged with the community and institutions like Ferris to support students to develop career skills that will allow them to excel post-graduation."

DeLong also mentioned that the team embraces their purpose to make patients become people again. One of the ways some patients are treated is through radiopharmaceutical care/therapy. This involves treatment to the targeted delivery of radiation to tumor cells, or to the tumor microenvironment that consists of tumor growth and proliferation.

The radiopharmaceutical care, the advancement in technology and the power of the team are all reasons DeLong states that patients can receive the care they need.

"Enabling access and affordability of novel radiopharmaceutical

care to all patients," DeLong said. "We have combined technology alongside a talented team to empower them to focus on delivering the best possible care in an efficient and safe manner."

Like DeLong joining BAMF Health due to his past career experiences, other alumni joined the team due to what they learned while attending the university.

For instance, Tina Brennan, a Nuclear Medicine Supervisor and Research Nuclear Medicine Technologist, graduated with both 2002 and 2004 classes. She gives all the credit to her background to Ferris for helping her find success at BAMF Health.

"While Theranostics may seem like a practice of the future, BAMF Health has established an advanced molecular imaging clinic and molecular therapy center that provides care to patients every day," Brennan said. "I am proud of my background in Nuclear Medicine from Ferris State University

because it laid the groundwork for my expertise in Molecular Imaging and provided me with the opportunity to thrive in the field of Theranostics."

According to Sr. Project Manager Tyler Zimkowski, class of 2018 graduate, it was his exposure at BAMF Health that taught him how to deliver a good experience for all patients.

"The exposure that I have been given into behind-the-scenes, scheduling, data management, and case management with patients has taught me how to prioritize delivering a notable patient experience to all patients, every time," Zimkowski said. "The fundamentals learned at Ferris State University set the tone for my continued growth and development."

Over the past two and a half decades, the number of Ferris alumni has continued to grow. As of this year, the total number has now exceeded 15 alums. The most recent is class of 2023 graduate

Fernando Anleu, who is a Nuclear Medicine Technologist.

Class of 2004 graduate, Brandi Miller, who's the Director of Clinical Operations, commented on the impacts the alumni and the university have on BAMF Health to help them care for every patient.

"As I walk down the halls of our clinic, I am reminded of the impact that Ferris State University has on the West Michigan community, with more than a dozen talented Bulldogs dedicated to advancing BAMF's Health mission," Miller said.

Visit <https://www.bamfhealth.com/> to learn more about the groups involvement in the research.

ON THE RECORD

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Home suite no

Oct. 11, 10:30 p.m. - A case of malicious destruction of property was reported from Cramer Hall. One resident complained that their suitemate had put garbage and water in their room. The case was closed and moved to the Office of Student Conduct.

Bye-bye converters

Oct. 15, time unknown - In a case of larceny, one student reported that their car's catalytic converters were cut while parked in Lot 6J near Travis Hall. Due to a lack of leads, no charges were filed by the victim and the case was dropped.

Update from Venlo Place

Following an instance of attempted rape reported on the night of Sunday, Oct. 8, residents of Venlo Place Apartments received an email on Oct. 11 stating the following:

"We would like to thank you for your assistance as we worked with the Police Department regarding the incident on Sunday night at Venlo Place. The individual is in custody, and was a guest of a resident, not a resident."

Venlo's security levels have returned to their regular operations. The complex still operates with 24-hour security recordings, which were used to assist law enforcement in locating the suspect last week.

Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

A close to celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

CLS teaches students how to Salsa and Bomba dance

Brook Blausey
Culture Reporter

Bright, colorful decorations and a live Hispanic band filled the David L. Eisler Center ballroom during the last celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

The Center for Latin@ Studies spent all of September celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. This month is to celebrate the impact and influence of Hispanic culture in America.

On Oct. 12, CLS hosted the last event of Hispanic Heritage Month by teaching participants how to Bomba and Salsa dance. Salsa is a type of dance that originated in Cuba in the 1900s and Bomba is a dance that originated in Puerto Rico. The event was open to all students and allowed those who attended a quick glimpse into Hispanic culture.

CLS Director Sonia Trevino believes that this event had a “bigger role” than other events CLS put on throughout the month.

“Dance is a form of self-expression within our community,” Trevino said. “It’s a heavy part of our celebratory events that we have throughout our culture. That’s why we wanted to make sure that we had a dance event so that we could incorporate that piece of our culture into the month of celebration.”

Education junior Alondra Reyna is the president of the Hispanic Student Organization. She believes that music is the “rhythm” of life and very important to the Hispanic community.

“Music and dance is a big part of our community,” Reyna said. “Moving your body to any dance,

you will just get this feeling. Like once you start dancing it really just comes from the soul.”

Trevino feels that this event allows her to celebrate like she is “back home.” Trevino is from South Texas, where it feels like Hispanic Heritage Month “goes all year long.”

The Hispanic Student Organization strongly supports CLS. Both organizations work together to make sure students enter a “community” that they can feel a part of.

“We want to see more people get involved,” Reyna said. “No matter where you’re from. I still feel like I’m a part of Mexico because I am involved with the CLS.”

Reyna believes that having these kinds of events is “very important” for Ferris.

“To see the Hispanic community coming together for this month and trying to plan these events for our culture, it’s cool,” Reyna said.

Pre-optometry student Meagan Powell attended the event to learn a little bit about Salsa and Bomba dancing as well as the Hispanic culture as a whole. This was her first experience with dancing and Hispanic Heritage Culture Month.

“I wanted to come to this event because I have no personal experience dancing,” Powell said. “I wanted to get a feel for it and learn a little bit more about the culture.”

Trevino wanted the attendees of the event to not only learn how to Salsa and Bomba dance, but to also get a sense of “community” and “have a good time” by learning a little bit about the Hispanic culture while also learning some of the “fun” dances.



Photo Credits: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Students dance at the Center for Latin@ Studies’ final Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

Ferris hosts Artworks’ annual fundraiser gala



Photo Credits: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Patron of the arts winner Netty Cove receives award and caricature.

Marlow Losey
Copy Editor

For the first time, Ferris allowed Artworks to fill the ballrooms of the David L. Eisler Center with their sparkling black, white and gold dresses and decorations honoring the Roaring 20’s themed annual fundraiser gala.

Artworks has served as a home for artists in Big Rapids since the 1980s. The business is responsible for filling the downtown area of Big Rapids with art and pushing local artists to continue their passion. Artworks serves as a shop that sells the work of Michigan artists and a gallery to view art for free.

Each year, Artworks holds a gala to raise money for the business. This money helps fund their support for local Michigan artists and their classes. Some of these include pottery, glass art and art classes for the town.

Director of creative arts and community engagement Arthur Johnson sees the night of the gala as a way for the community to “recognize and celebrate” Artworks.

“It’s an opportunity for us to have an evening where we can just celebrate and recognize the work that we as Artworks do in the community,” Johnson said.

Until this year, Johnson and previous directors have

hosted their gala outside in the alleyway behind their store, rain or shine. They struggle to hold the gala in a small space with unpredictable weather each year. The collaboration between Ferris and Artworks has given the gala a new location this year.

Dean of health professions Lincon Gibbs is also a board member at Artworks. Using his connections, he wanted to achieve Pink’s goal of connecting Ferris to the Big Rapids community by uniting Artworks and the university.

“President Pink spoke just months ago about the need for the [Ferris] community to build a bridge with Big Rapids,” Gibbs said. “And I thought, what better way to bring what [Artworks] is doing to Ferris?”

Johnson believes the establishment was “fortunate” to have Gibbs on the board because he found a new place for this annual event. According to President Bill Pink, Ferris plans on hosting Artwork’s annual gala for “as long as the tall bald guy is president of Ferris.”

Aside from his work at Ferris and Artworks, Gibbs spends his time as a cake artist creating “extravagant and gravity defying cakes.” Gibbs used to host a baking camp for kids in Big Rapids. He defines himself as a “creator by nature.”

JUMP TO PAGE 7

Learning the differences



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

How to differentiate Spanish culture identifiers

Kendall Phillips
Culture Reporter

When speaking to someone who is apart of the Spanish culture, have you ever wondered whether to use Hispanic, Latina/o or Latinx? Have you ever wondered what the significance is to these words and what makes them different? Here's what you should know.

According to Pew Research, it was shown in a 2019 survey that 47% of Hispanics described themselves by the family's country of origin. It was found in a 2022 survey that "53% of Hispanics prefer to describe themselves as "Hispanic," 26% prefer "Latino," 2% prefer "Latinx" and 18% have no preference."

Whether someone identifies as Latina/Latino or Hispanic can be based on two things, where one is from or what they personally choose to identify with. By technical terms, people that are native

to Latin American countries are Latina or Latino depending on what gender they identify with, and people who are from Spanish-speaking countries would be referred to as Hispanic.

Some natives would debate that it depends on what the person identifies with. Director of the Center for Latin@ Studies Sonia Trevino explains that the terms Latina/Latino or Hispanic are up to the person and what their culture uses to identify themselves.

"For me, I identify as Hispanic," Trevino said. "In my culture it was just the term that we used. Now there are some people on the East Coast or the West Coast that would identify as Latino or Latina. It is a cultural thing and how the person chooses to identify."

According to Trevino, there isn't a huge difference between being Latina/o or being Hispanic, and sometimes it can also just depend on what part of America you are in.

"When I came here to the North, I heard the words Latina and Latino tossed around a lot," Trevino said. "I had never heard that term in the South. In Texas, we always used the term Hispanic."

For a short time the term LatinX was used as a way to describe Spanish natives who didn't associate with a gender. According to Trevino, it was rejected by the older generations and embraced by younger generations. Along with this, Latin@ is used to be inclusive for Latina/o but the term is "outdated."

According to TV station KTLA, 40% of Hispanics and Latina/o's found the term Latinx as offensive. However, the term Latine was seen as less controversial but still not widely accepted by the Spanish culture.

"It was a very mixed reception," Trevino said. "The term LatinX really isn't used anymore, it had too much negative connotation to it."

Nursing and Spanish senior, Elizabeth Huerta, encourages everyone to learn and understand the difference out of respect to the Spanish communities.

"It's important to know the difference because different individuals within the Hispanic and Latin@ community identity closely to one term over the other," Huerta said. "By understanding the distinctions or even asking, you are being respectful to their preferences and identities. Furthermore, people within the Hispanic/Latina/o community come from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, and their identity doesn't solely revolve around their language or even their place of origin."

Just like Huerta, mathematics education junior Alondra Reyna also believes it is important for not only non Hispanic or Latina/o people to understand the difference, but also those who are of Spanish descent.

"We are also trying to understand what we are," Reyna said. "Some of us are second or first generation and we also don't know what we are. It really is just a learning opportunity for everybody."

As an education major, Reyna enjoys being able to teach people about not only the difference between being a Latina/o or being Hispanic, but also teaching people about Spanish culture.

"I do particularly enjoy teaching others," Reyna said. "I just love talking about the differences and similarity's throughout my community. I try not to blame anyone for not knowing the difference because it really is just a learning opportunity, every time I see the opportunity to teach I take it."

Since the term Latin@ is not often used and unfamiliar to some, CLS is in the process of changing their name. Look to future Torch editions for their new name.

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Photo Credits: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Gala members enjoy fancy food and drink.

Artworks fundraiser cont.

“Cake art is my main specialty, so I bring that creativity to Big Rapids and share with the community what I do,” Gibbs said. “Here I am as a dean, and also as an artist. Well, what’s a great way I could use both of my positions to help the community? I’m doing it through my connection with Ferris and also through my passion and love for the arts.”

Each year, a student artist is featured with their own section of the galley at Artworks. Artworks has also encouraged education coordinator Ruth Vermeer to transition from “crafter” to “artist.”

“When I first came [to Artworks], I was just an artist that made greeting cards,” Vermeer said. “But then I took on the

role of education coordinator. Now, I get to teach, which is really my passion.”

After setting up an art table in the parking lot behind City Hall, the old director of Artworks provided the opportunity for Vermeer’s art to be sold in their shop along with many other local Michigan artists. After becoming the education coordinator, she was able to inspire many young creators to embrace their talents the way Artworks inspired her.

“We care that art is accessible to anybody and we encourage people,” Vermeer said. “I find this all the time with kids. Already, they say ‘I can’t do that, I’m not as good as someone else.’ Where did that come from? Because I’ve witnessed that little kids can be really creative.”

In the experience of Vermeer, kids at a young age are

comparing themselves and “they just quit.” She hopes that Artworks can change that for the community just as it did for her.

“Oftentimes, I start a class and say ‘who thinks they can’t do art?’ We usually have 12 kids in a session, and five to seven kids will raise their hand and say they can’t do art,” Vermeer said. “I say ‘take that thought and throw it out the window.’”

All money spent on tickets, drinks and auctioned items at the gala were donated to local artists recognized by Artworks. With financial support from the gala, Artworks hopes to continue their events such as their Hispanic Heritage Month celebration from Sept. 15 to Nov. 4.

P-H-A-R-M-A-C-Y

Pharmacy students compete in annual spelling bee

Kathleen Camp
Culture Reporter

On Oct. 11, students fought to find the best medication speller during the annual pharmacy spelling bee.

This event was hosted by Kappa Psi and the Student Michigan Pharmacist Association. Three pharmacy students went 14 rounds in their attempts to spell different medications correctly.

Associate PharmD professor Dr. Mark Young was the spelling bee judge, wearing a white wig and judge outfit.

“I have judged these competitions a bunch of times hence my outfit here today,” Young said. “The students are allowed to ask any questions about the words they want but whether I give it to them or not is up to me.”

The three students all introduced themselves and told different stories about how they came to the event today seeking redemption for other failed spelling bee attempts. Two of the students had participated in prior pharmacy spelling bees and the other student was in a spelling bee as a kid.

Associate professor of medicinal chemistry Dr. Eric Nybo was the spelling bee pronouncer and shared one of his traumatic spelling bee stories.

“I was in the school spelling bee in second grade, and I went down on the word scissors,” Nybo said. “I spelled it s-c-i-s-s-r-s. I forgot the ‘o’ and they said I got it wrong. I was awestruck and it traumatized me for life. We all want them to find redemption today, so we will do as many rounds as it takes.”

Pharmacy senior Colin Salois is a member of the Kappa Psi. He briefly explains why he decided to host the event.

“We really wanted to expand this event with pre pharmacy program students or even people outside of pharmacy. Just to bring people together and to be fair,” Salois said.

They gave each contestant a word, if both contestants misspelled a word, then they kept going. They were also required to repeat the word after spelling it. The students were allowed to ask for the word indication, type of medication it was or to have the pronouncer use the word in sentence.

Pharmacy senior Deklan Marshall won this year’s spelling bee. Though this was his first Ferris spelling bee, he had had prior experience as a child.

“Back in fifth grade, I got into the regional spelling bee for Negaunee, Mich. and got fifth place. So, I had experience and thought I could give this one a try.”

During round 11, the word “insulin detemir” stumped both contestants. Since both students couldn’t spell the word correctly, they had to continue to the next round until one of them missed a word that the other student could not properly spell.

The contestants all won a gift card for participation. As this is an annual event, it will be happening again next year for anyone else seeking spelling redemption.



Photo Credits: Jack Starkey | Freelance Photographer

Ferris pharmacy students compete for gift cards and bragging rights at this year’s spelling bee.

Opinions

Jackie Moglia | Opinions Editor | mogliaj@ferris.edu

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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

The importance of real research

Find it in a library, not Facebook



Graphic By: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Jessica Oakes *Editor in Chief*

Whether the topic is COVID-19, global politics or the upcoming Gotion plant, many people in the digital age believe they've become experts through alternative independent research.

I believe that our current easy access to information is a fantastic thing. The average person has the ability to inform themselves on anything at any time. However, this has made some dissenters too confident.

My experience in professional research is limited. While working on my history minor, I wrote up to three research papers per semester. For the past year, I have worked on a project studying data analysis in genocide with other Ferris faculty, staff and students.

As a history scholar and journalist, I have great respect for research and expertise.

I believe that the word research

should be reserved for gathering information through fieldwork or reputable scholarly sources such as academic journals.

The summer of 2020 was the first time I saw groups of people with the audacity to counter professional research from experts in favor of their own ideas, largely spread through social media.

It was jarring to hear people say they did their own "research" on face masks and vaccines which proved their inefficacy.

I never understood how they could believe they found groundbreaking information that the entire world's scientists had missed.

There is mass distrust in science, media and institutions that theoretically exist to inform and educate the public. This has pushed people to the dark corners of internet misinformation.

A poll conducted by Ipsos this year showed that only 58% of those surveyed had a "fair amount" or a "great deal" of trust

in the Food and Drug Administration.

A separate study led by researchers at Harvard University showed that only 37% of those surveyed trust the Centers for Disease Control.

"However, public trust in government and other major institutions across US society has been declining for decades, and the pandemic has raised concerns about trust in public health agencies in particular," the researchers wrote. "Opportunities for misinformation to take root in the current social and traditional media environments raise concerns that trust will decline further."

Nationwide mistrust in these institutions is dangerous. Beyond the pandemic, people feel comfortable disregarding experts' findings in other hot-button areas such as climate change and abortion.

This year, for the first time in American history, a court attempted to invalidate the approval of a

drug by the FDA.

Appointed by Donald Trump, Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk suspended the approval of the abortion medication mifepristone. Kacsmaryk has no scientific background whatsoever.

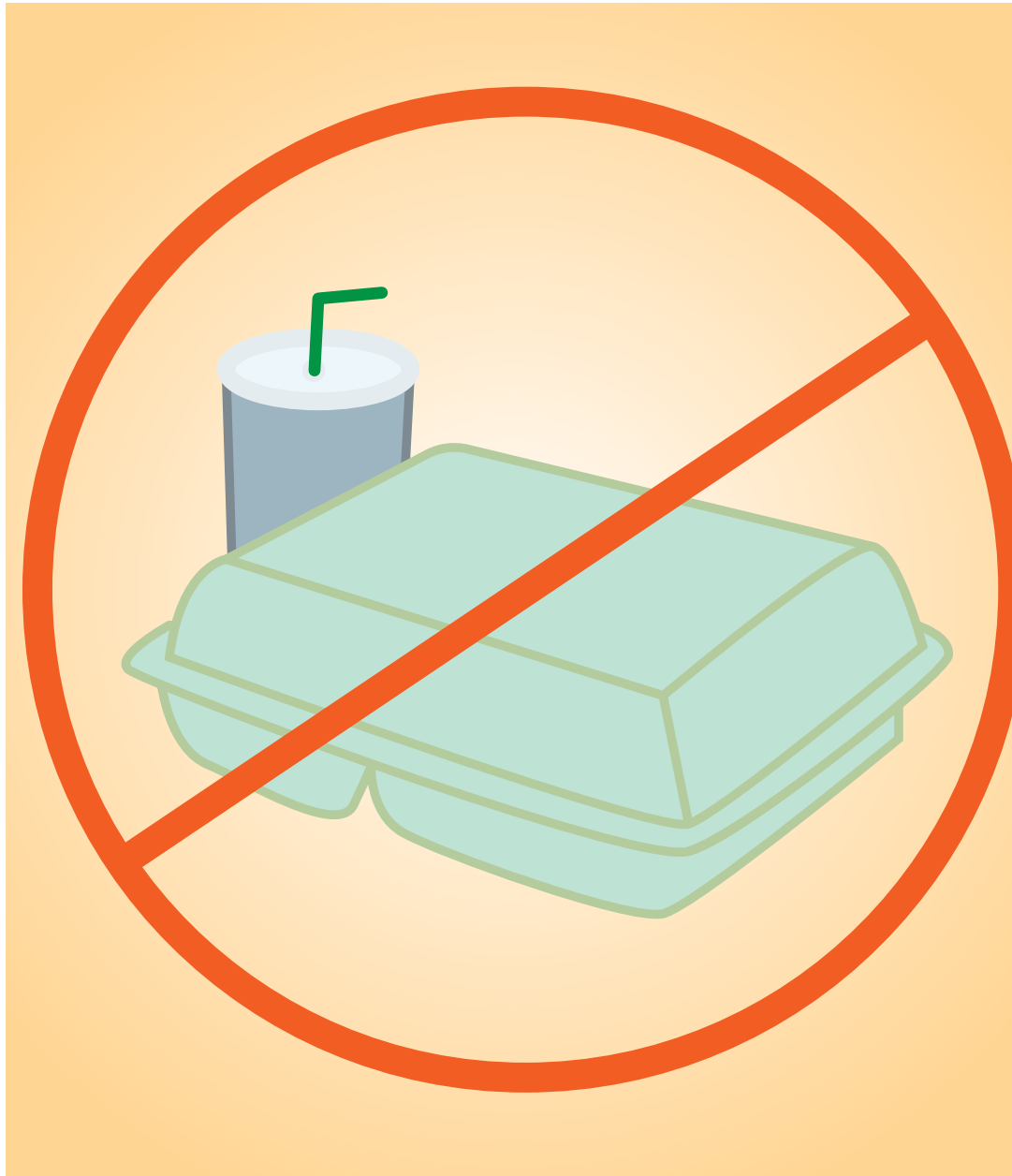
When people hear news they don't like from the CDC, the FDA or major media outlets, they too often feel emboldened enough to believe they can outsmart the experts.

For the first time in my years at Ferris, I now see the people of Big Rapids politically organizing. Unfortunately, the anti-Gotion cause has turned into a misinformation landmine. Even with valid criticisms to be made about local bureaucracy and environmental impact, the debate often dissolves into claims of national security threats traceable to social media posts.

Research doesn't happen on Facebook. It happens in a lab, a library or out in the real world.

The to-go box dilemma

Bring back the boxes



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

Harmony Goodman
Production Manager

During my first week back on campus, I was given the news that there would be no more to-go options at the Rock Café.

I am aiming to earn both my bachelor's and associate's within four years here at Ferris. Unfortunately, that means I am taking up to 16 credits each semester. I find myself very busy, hopping from class to class and then to work. Last year, I relied on the to-go system at the Rock for a lot of my meals during the week.

Due to the removal of to-go, I often find it hard to eat certain meals, such as breakfast and lunch some days.

The Rock Café was renovated this past summer where they added a ton of new features, however, they also changed their hours and took away the to-go option. They took the containers away because students were leaving food to rot in them and then bringing them in to be traded for a new box, leaving the old box with rotten food with no place to go but the dish room.

I can understand the frustration with the spoiled food, in my personal opinion, it shows a lack of respect and responsibility. It's unfair that a student is given the option to get their food to go, yet they don't wash the box themselves or at least make sure they turn it in before the food starts to rot.

While I understand why staff at

the Rock are unhappy about the situation, I don't believe entirely taking away the to-go boxes was the right decision to make.

It feels as if some rule changes would be a better option. Since everyone who wanted to use the to-go box purchased theirs individually, it feels more logical that everyone who purchases their box is responsible for it. I believe that if you want food to go, then cleaning and reusing your box is a responsibility that should be expected.

Without the to-go boxes, students who have busy schedules are finding it difficult to eat the typical three meals a day. The closing time being switched to 9 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. adds a whole other level of difficulty for students.

As I mentioned, I have a hectic schedule as it is, but days where I have late-night practice right after class can get frustrating for me. I go straight from class to practice until 9:30 p.m. some nights and I find it impossible to have time to eat dinner. By the time I get out of practice the Rock has already closed and I am forced to spend money on food or use a meal exchange. For students who don't have meal exchanges, this can be even more annoying.

Students should have a reliable way to eat food no matter their schedule and I hope that with time the Rock will realize this. Until then, I will be going to bed on an empty stomach.

Is hockey for everyone?

Why the NHL's new rule is disrespectful to the LGBTQ community

Jackie Moglia
Opinions Editor

Hockey is for everyone. Or at least, it was.

On Oct. 10, the NHL issued a statement banning the use of pride tape for practices, warm-ups and games.

This announcement comes after the decision to ban all specialty jerseys for warm-ups, including Pride Nights, Black History Night and Hockey Fights Cancer, after seven players from various teams declined to wear Pride Night jerseys due to family/religious reasons or "safety concerns" for Russian players.

This is a slap to the face for every member of the LGBTQ community, whether it be a player, such as Luke Prokop, the first openly gay NHL prospect, fans, coaches or staff. Hockey culture is already notoriously toxic and unsafe for minorities, and the NHL has been quite clear about who they are choosing to stand with.

In recent years, the NHL has been avidly working with You Can Play and started the campaign

"Hockey is for Everyone." This isn't the case anymore. While hockey itself may be for everyone, the NHL has certainly made it clear that it, as a league, is not.

The league has chosen the hateful views of those who stepped forward, the seven players, less than 1% of the league, over the initiatives it has worked with for years. It has chosen to side with homophobia instead of allowing a few players to look bad for 15 minutes.

As a proud member of the LGBTQ and someone who grew up in a hockey family and played the game, it's about more than just a rainbow on tape or a rainbow logo. It's knowing that you can play the game.

With all eyes on the NHL, it's time to turn our eyes to our own Division 1 team. Ferris isn't an entirely liberal location as Big Rapids is a predominantly Republican area. Ferris hockey is our only Division 1 team and an important part of our school's culture.

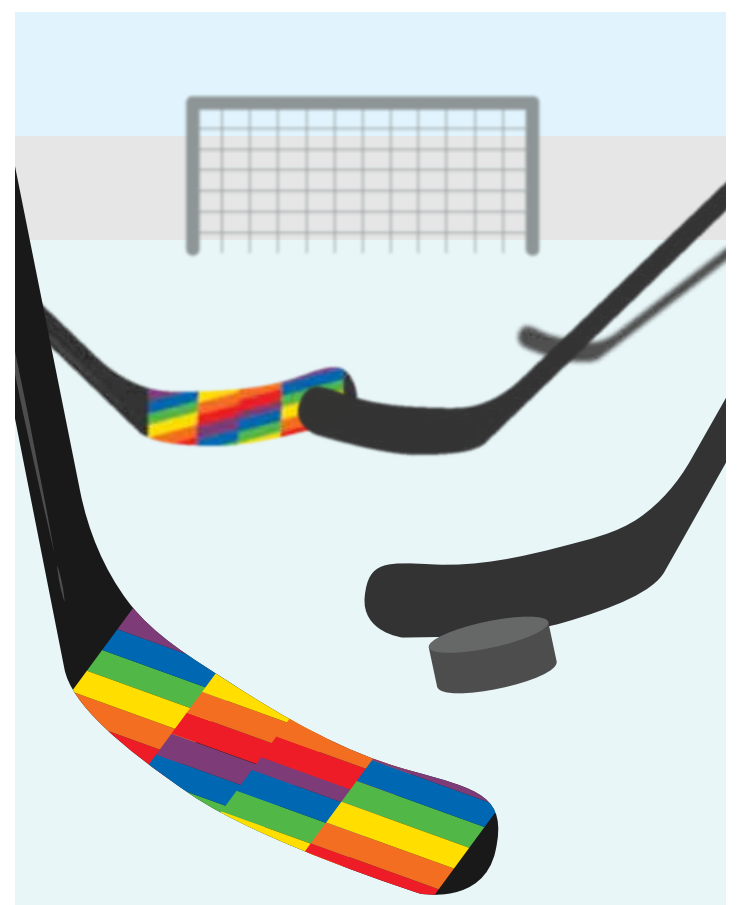
Ferris State Hockey has done special event nights in the past, such as Veterans Appreciation,

Military Appreciation, Pink in the Rink game for breast cancer and Ladies Night. What's stopping them from hosting a pride night?

Showing the kids in the crowd at NHL games that they could play was the whole point of the now-abandoned "Hockey is for Everyone" initiative. It wasn't just for the LGBTQ community, but for people of color, sled hockey and women's hockey as well. Everybody has a place in the sport, and it's time for Ferris to start showing that.

A simple night to raise money for an LGBTQ charity, such as the Trevor Project or maybe a couple of players slap pride tape on their stick and call it inclusion. Like Edmonton Oilers' winger Zach Hyman said, "Taping our sticks is the least we can do."

Just because the NHL has decided that pride tape is a distraction, it doesn't mean that Ferris has to as well. Now is the most important time to show support for the LGBTQ fans, players, coaches and staff, because the sport we love is proving it will never love us back.



Graphic By: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Sports

Dylan Rider | Sports Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

Bulldogs splits series with Broncos

Bulldogs lose at Western, take down the #12 team at home



Photo credits: Levi Waling | Torch Photographer

Number 21 Jason Brancheau takes the puck across the ice.

Jack Alcorn
Sports Reporter

Bulldog hockey fell to the Western Michigan Broncos on the road on Thursday, Oct. 12 before returning home and capturing a shootout win on Friday, Oct. 13.

The Bulldogs (1-2-1, 0-0-0 in conference) faced off against the Broncos (1-0-1, 0-0-0 in conference). The first matchup ended with the Broncos winning 6-4 and

continuing their winning streak. The game at Ferris resulted in a 3-3 tie on the scoring sheet, although in the shootout, Ferris came out on top 4-3.

Following the upset victory, head coach Bob Daniels shared his thoughts on how they played.

"I thought coming in here today, we really had to ramp things up from the standpoint of being strong on our sticks and heavier along the wall," Daniels said. "The

guys adjusted very well to not only the intensity but the speed of Western Michigan."

Daniels felt his team had a good amount of "physicality" in both games against Western Michigan.

In their first road contest of the season, Ferris got off to a slow start and the Broncos capitalized scoring two first period goals.

The Bulldogs answered back with a goal from junior forward Nick Nardecchia. The Broncos scored two goals every period while Ferris stayed behind but featured goals from senior forward Jacob Dirks, senior forward Stephan Pokorny, and senior forward Antonio Venuto.

The game ended in a 6-4 scoreline favoring Western Michigan and continuing their nine-game winning streak against the Bulldogs.

Junior goaltender Noah Giesbrecht, who stopped 42 of 48 shots, believed the team trended in the right direction during the matchup at Lawson ice arena.

"They had us on our toes on the first, but I feel like we just needed a little to settle down," Giesbrecht said. "I thought we moved towards the right direction. The bounces just weren't going our way."

The Bulldogs traveled back home for the second game of the series. And despite being the underdogs, they came out hot in the

first period scoring two goals from sophomore forward Tyler Schleppe and junior forward Kaleb Ergang.

The hot start fizzled out in the 2nd period as the Broncos scored three goals in the period, two of the three being on power-plays. Ferris came back to tie late in the third period with a goal from senior forward Jason Brancheau.

Following a fruitless overtime, the game went to a shootout. Ferris had four chances to put the Broncos away and finally did so with a goal by freshman forward Luigi Benincasa. Earlier, Benincasa missed the game-winning shot at the end of overtime. The freshman forward shared his rollercoaster of emotions.

"I was pretty mad about it, but I just had to try to clear my head," Benincasa said. "I was fortunate enough to get a turn to shoot and end up getting redemption on that."

Benincasa has played in three out of the four games so far this season and has accumulated three assists in his freshman campaign.

Western has had Ferris' number for years as they have beaten them nine times in a row, a streak that started back in 2018. Western Michigan has scored 43 goals in those games to Ferris' 16. Heading into the season, the Broncos were ranked #12 in the country af-

ter coming off an exit in last year's NCAA regional semifinals.

Despite the losing streak, Daniels remained unmoved by any stats going against his team.

"I don't really worry about streaks, whether they're winning or losing, I don't think that was ever mentioned in the locker room," Daniels said. "We have a healthy amount of respect for Western Michigan. We take more from the win tonight than anything that happened since 2017."

Part of their success has to be attributed to senior goaltender Logan Stein who saved 27 out of the 30 shots Western had. He especially came up big in the penalty shootout saving five out of the eight shots.

"I played 65 minutes of hockey," Stein said. "My legs were a little tired but you just gotta take it shot by shot."

It was Stein's first appearance of his senior campaign, and the least amount of goals Ferris has allowed so far this season in a game.

The Bulldogs' next game will be an exhibition match against Ferris' longtime rival Grand Valley on Oct. 20 at 7:07 p.m.

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Bulldog soccer sweeps weekend

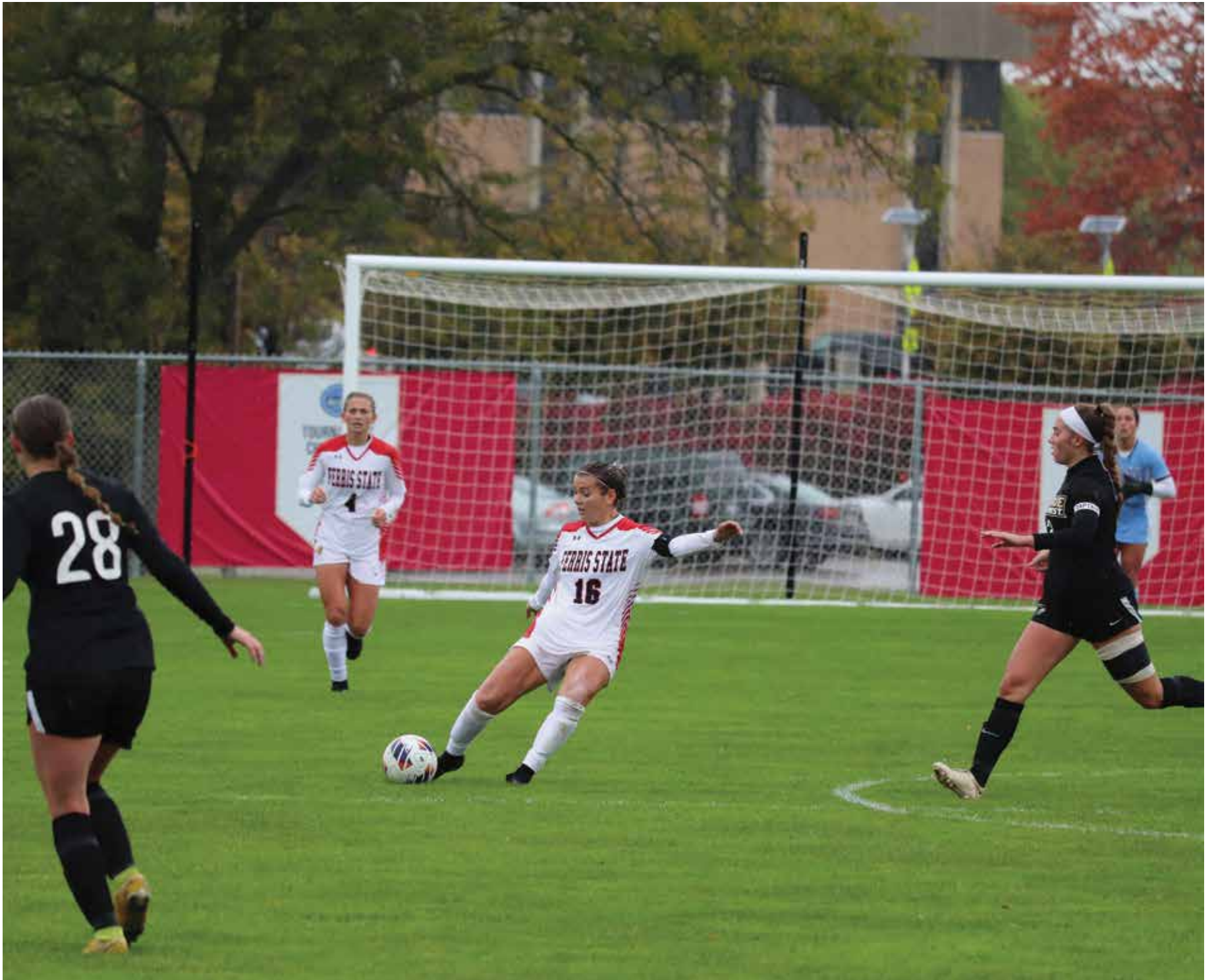


Photo credits: Sam Mulder | Torch Photographer

Midfielder Jessie Bandyk receives the ball during a rainy game against Purdue-Northwest.

Ferris State defeats Purdue-Northwest and Wisconsin-Parkside

Sean Anderson
Freelance Reporter

Bulldog soccer won their weekend home series against the Purdue-Northwest Pride on Friday, Oct. 13 and the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers on Sunday, Oct. 15.

The Bulldogs (5-5-3, 3-4-2 in conference) outscored their opponents 7-1 on the weekend, beating the Pride 5-0 and vanquishing the Rangers 2-1.

Head coach Greg Henson believes the team has been growing through their season's ups and downs.

"We're definitely coming along," Henson said. "We talked about it earlier in the year. We wanna be playing our best soccer when we get to November for playoff time."

In Friday's game against Purdue-Northwest (2-8-2, 0-7-1 in

conference), the Bulldogs scored five unanswered goals. The five tallies are the most the women have scored all season. Leading the Bulldogs in the matchup was freshman forward Katherine Welch, who scored four goals in the contest.

Welch's massive performance began ten minutes into the first half, when she scored her first goal of the match.

Fourteen minutes later, she scored her second. The Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead into halftime.

The onslaught from Welch continued shortly after the second half began, as her third goal came roughly five minutes into the half and her fourth and final goal came roughly eight minutes later.

With Welch's natural hat-trick and her fourth goal putting the Bulldogs up 4-0, senior forward Payton Price got in on the scoring

action to make it a 5-0 game.

Following a tough 3-0 loss against Saginaw Valley on Friday, Oct. 6, Henson gave the women a weekend off. For Welch, she believed the break helped power them to a win.

"I thought [the break] was really helpful," Welch said. "It just took our minds off soccer for a second and come back as an even better team, which we did today."

Price, who scored in the second half, assisted on one of Welch's goals. Price had fired a shot that went across the box that Welch hammered home.

Welch's four goals puts her as the leading scorer for the Bulldogs so far, a title that was previously held by Price. The senior from Pontiac had high praise for the freshman Welch.

"She really stepped up for the team today," Price said. "She's just

a freshman, so she has so much time left here."

The second game of back-to-back contests have been a struggle for the Bulldogs, as they were winless before Sunday's 2-1 victory over the Rangers (2-5-2, 0-4-1 in conference).

Welch continued her hot streak, scoring her sixth goal of the season and fifth goal on the weekend. The Bulldogs extended their lead in the second half when senior midfielder Brinley Bell scored her first goal of the season.

The Rangers were able to cut the lead in half, but failed to match the score and left the Bulldogs with a 2-1 victory.

Junior goalkeeper Darya Mosallaei was forced to make two saves following the Rangers' goal. In the game, Mosallaei saved four shots.

"We're not going to let in many goals for the rest of the season,"

Mosallaei said.

Before Henson gave the women a weekend off, the team was struggling. In September and the beginning October, the Bulldogs went 2-5-3. Henson gave insight into what he told his players going into their weekend break.

"Get away from the game. Go find some people that won't ask you about soccer for a little while," Henson said. "It's time to hit the reset button."

With only five games remaining in the regular season, the Bulldogs will be at home again next weekend to play Davenport Panthers (4-5-3, 1-5-3 in conference) on Friday, Oct. 20 and Grand Valley State Lakers (7-2-3, 5-1-3 in conference) on Sunday, Oct. 22.

Tennis dominates the weekend

Women's tennis defeats Bucknell, men's duo Koupil and Lortie compete at ITA Cup



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Sophomore Ana Hernandez in action

Jeffery Walker
Sports Reporter

Bulldog tennis wrapped up the fall portion of their season with the women dominating a win over Bucknell on Saturday, Oct. 14 and the men competing at the ITA cup on the same day.

Both the men and women played in the Davenport tournament and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association regionals during the fall. The women played their regionals at the University of Indianapolis while the men played theirs at Grand Valley State University.

Women's tennis

The women took on Division I Bucknell as they took care of business at home. The Bulldogs dominated in the doubles matchups to start the matchup winning all three of the matches.

Head coach Mark Doren highlighted what is important for the team.

"That's crucial to the success of our team," Doren said. "The women's team really prides themselves it gets us started out one zero, and then you can add the momentum of doubles going into the singles. I think that's really important for the Ferris women's tennis team and yesterday, we were dominant in doubles."

Sophomore Ana Sofia Hernandez Ferrer and senior Morgan Waller won their match 6-2, senior Sophie Daavettilla and freshman Aimee Reynoso Cupido were victorious in their match, winning 7-5, and sophomore Maria Fernanda Hernandez Ferrer and junior Kennedy Dumas came out on top 6-2.

The team carried that momentum into the singles competition as they won 4 out of the 6 matches.

Daavettilla defeated Whitney King in three sets, after losing the first set 5-7, Daavettilla went on to win the next 2 sets 6-4, and 10-5. Waller won in 2 sets, winning 6-1 and 6-3. Cupido defeated her opponent in 2 sets 7-6 and 6-3.

Kennedy Dumas won in 2 sets, 6-1 and 6-3.

Daavettilla was feeling the moment as she clinched the win for the Bulldogs.

"It was a super awesome moment to win my match and clinch it for the team," Daavettilla said. "It was a super hard fight and happy I was able to come back with my team cheering for me."

The team finished its final fall match with a win and now they will continue to practice and learn for the spring season.

Men's Tennis

The duo of senior Jan Koupil and senior Ben Lortie was invited to compete at the ITA Cup on the road

Koupil and Lortie won their first match against their opponent before advancing to the match that resulted in their only loss on the weekend. Following the loss, the duo ended their ITA Cup with a victory.

Koupil is looking forward to competing more with his partner Lortie and learning from each other.

"Ben and I, we've played together for just over a year now," Koupil said. "We've really gotten to know how each other plays by just playing together, communicating, learning from each other and learning from the team as well. It will really help us grow together more."

According to a Ferris State press release, the duo of Koupil and Lortie were among the "at large" selections that received invitations to the ITA Cup from their ITA regional performances in September.

In the same release, Doren expressed that the duo did Ferris proud and felt the team will be strong come spring.

"The guys finished the ITA Cup with a great win and really represented Ferris State, the Midwest Region and themselves very well," Doren said.

Both tennis squads will return to action in February. Their first matchup will be at Findlay on Feb. 9 at 10 a.m.

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