

# The Ferris State Torch

92 YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE TRUTH

Big Rapids, Michigan

Week of Oct. 4 - Oct. 11

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## The Homecoming edition



## Trevor Wallace takes over Williams Auditorium



Photo courtesy of Hannah Crouch

**Dylan Rider**  
Sports Editor

Over 1,400 people came to Williams Auditorium for Trevor Wallace, this year's Homecoming comedian.

Wallace, hosted by Ferris' Entertainment Unlimited, is believed to have brought in the largest crowd since COVID.

According to Ben Avery, coordinator for the Center of Student Involvement, Wallace brought in nearly 300 more spectators than E.U.'s last major celebrity guest, Waka Flocka Flame.

Opening for Wallace was fellow comedian Alec Flynn, who shared a similar comedic style to Wal-

lace. Flynn's comedy drew roars of laughter from the crowd as he joked about love in a dorm room, electronic scooters, dating apps and alpha male influencers.

Flynn found the crowd in Big Rapids to be very supportive of him as an opening act.

"It was incredible," Flynn said. "It was an honor. [I'm] glad everyone came out. I know they're here for Trevor but to be so warm towards me, it really meant a lot."

Flynn, who is self-admittedly "not a math guy," jokingly estimated that there must have been a "quarter of a billion" people in the auditorium and that the "percentages" looked good to him.

Wallace's comedy, like Flynn's,

was met with numerous fits of laughter from the auditorium through the night. His material ranged from jokes about his ex-girlfriend and dating red flags to the type of people that drive certain cars and the attention span of this generation.

Towards the end of his set, Wallace began interacting with the crowd. One student, who donned a hat that read "I pee in pools," received Wallace's attention. Wallace conversed with the student while ribbing him regarding information shouted out by fellow audience members.

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Homecoming headliner Trevor Wallace takes the stage.

Inside: Celebrating Stormy Asanpi's Life

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# News

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

## Paige takes the win



Photo credit: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

The 2023 homecoming ambassador candidates Telsa McBride, Paige Byrnes, Keonie Russell and Imari Carl await the winning announcement.

Representing the Sigma Alpha Tau sorority, business administration senior Paige Byrnes was voted the 2023 Homecoming ambassador.

Byrnes has been a consistently active member of the Ferris community ever since she got here. She is currently a member of Sigma Alpha Tau, but also took part in the club volleyball team and the homecoming committee in previous years.

“I honestly didn’t expect this,” Byrnes said. “I just feel so honored and special that the student body has supported me so much throughout this week.”

The support for Byrnes was very noticeable at Saturday’s festivities, when a cheering section of friends and family roared when her name was called. Diagnostic medical sonography junior Olivia Szyszko, Byrnes’ friend and roommate, was jumping up and down with excitement for her friend.

“She is the most caring girl ever,” Szyszko said. “Whenever I am having a bad day I will just go lay on the floor in her room, and somehow she will always find a

way to make me feel better.”

Some of Byrnes’ fellow sorority sisters attended Saturday’s game to cheer her on as well. Sorority sister construction management sophomore Paige Sornig was one of the first down by the field waiting to congratulate Byrnes after her name was announced.

“She has been beyond helpful to me,” Sornig said. “If I ever have any questions about anything I always know I can count on Paige to help me out.”

Running for ambassador was an amazing experience for Byrnes, but the most memorable part for her was meeting and becoming friends with the other candidates. Paige was one of four candidates for this year’s ambassador campaign, and during the events she got the opportunity to get to know the other candidates.

“Meeting the other candidates was amazing,” Byrnes said. “I am astonished that the student body chose me, and I really hope to maintain my connection with them and I am so blessed to have gotten to run alongside them.”

Now that the campaigning is

over, Paige is beyond excited to represent the student body. She wants to encourage everyone on campus to get involved in some capacity.

“I want to continue to support our athletic teams, our RSO’s, and all of the other organizations here on campus,” Byrnes said.

Paige feels that she couldn’t have done this without her sorority, Alpha Sigma Tau. She is so grateful for their endorsement and support that they have given her throughout her candidacy.

“The only reason I am here right now is because I always say yes to things,” Byrnes said. “I am so grateful for the support system that I have here at Alpha Sigma Tau. Whenever I ask them if I should do this they always enthusiastically say yes.”

Paige would describe running for ambassador as both a “fun and rewarding experience.” She encourages anyone that is thinking about running for ambassador in the future to do it.



Photo credit: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

President Pink with Homecoming ambassador Paige Byrnes.

### MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour  
News Editor

**Detroit:** Michigan’s first 3D printed house is almost finished with construction in Detroit.

The house is a two-bed, one-bath and built by the non-profit Citizen Robotics according to the Detroit Free Press. The construction started in October last year with the hope of having it completed in nine months, however due to permit delays the company now expects to have the house finished by the end of this year.

“From applying for permits, acquiring those permits, excavating the site, not to mention removing all the refuse that was on this site, pouring the foundation, waiting for concrete — there was a concrete shortage at the time — so we were waiting, waiting, waiting for concrete to show up,” Bales said.

Citizen Robotics plans to continue to build houses not only in Detroit, but other cities across Michigan as well.

### GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour  
News Editor

**Turkey:** An attack took place in Ankara, the capital of Turkey.

The bombing was linked to the Kurdish rebels according to BBC News.

The attack happened after one of the two attackers exited their vehicle and threw a small explosive at the ministry, in order to distract security. The second attacker then opened fire at security. He then set off the bomb on his chest, killing him.

The other attacker was shot dead by police.

Two police officers were injured in the attack.







Photo credit: Dylan Rider | Sports Editor

**Comedian Alec Flynn opening for Homecoming headliner Trevor Wallace with material on alpha males and dating apps.**

**WALLACE CONT.**

Pre-pharmacy freshman Casey Marek knew of Wallace for years and enjoyed the audience interaction the most.

“Seeing that [Wallace] was coming here for free, [I was] like ‘I gotta go to that,’” Marek said. “I liked his audience interaction for sure. He would build off of it.”

Wallace’s final bit of audience interaction and the final moment of his show had an audience member ask for his ex-girlfriend’s social media handles. Wallace’s response spelled out “@yourmom.”

The event, like Waka Flocka Flame’s in the spring, brought in a long line of excited audience members that wrapped around Williams Auditorium early in the evening. Thirty minutes before the opener took the stage, the auditorium was already filled.

The turnout for Wallace’s stand-up seemingly marks a trend of successful homecoming comedians. In the past, Ferris has seen the

likes of Whitney Cummings, Marlon Wayans, Dave Coulier, Nick Offerman and Bo Burnham headline the event.

According to E.U. president Kaitlyn Walters, there was some discussion if Wallace would be able to top their previous spring event.

“It was a big debate in our group whether or not we would get a similar, better or worse turnout as Waka,” Walters said. “Based on my observation, I think we did a little bit better than Waka. It was awesome seeing the line around the block. We always love it when as many students can come to our events.”

E.U. was in charge of all events for Homecoming 2023, so their work was not over following the Wallace show. Walters described it as “really only the kickoff.”

E.U.’s next headlining event will come in the form of their spring concert next semester.

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# Flu numbers on the rise

## What to consider to bring flu numbers down

**Tate Zellman**  
News Reporter

As autumn and winter are approaching, the chances of getting the flu virus are still possible even if someone has the COVID vaccines and boosters.

After the first few weeks of the 2023-24 academic year, there have been more signs of the common cold, the flu and other types of sickness going around,

This is a reoccurring cycle every winter. Even with the COVID vaccines and boosters, the numbers of the flu virus are still going up as the temperatures begin to cool.

Rhonda Bishop, an associate professor at the School of Nursing, discussed why more people get the flu during the colder seasons and how it spreads easier through cold temperatures.

“Research suggests that flu virus transmission is more efficient during colder temperatures and lower humidity,” Bishop said. “Changes in a person’s nasal passage during the colder and drier weather make us more susceptible.”

If anyone feels like they’re starting to develop a sickness, they can visit Birkam Health Center, the campus resource that offers primary care services and acute care for all Ferris students.

Nursing sophomore Kyle Durfee thought of a different reason be-

sides colder weather as to why flu numbers are rising.

“Part of the reason we’re having an increase in flu numbers is because school has started back up,” Durfee said.

Exposure to other students, professors and the germs inside the buildings can cause a person to get the flu. This risk is greater during the colder seasons since viruses spread more easily in colder and drier air.

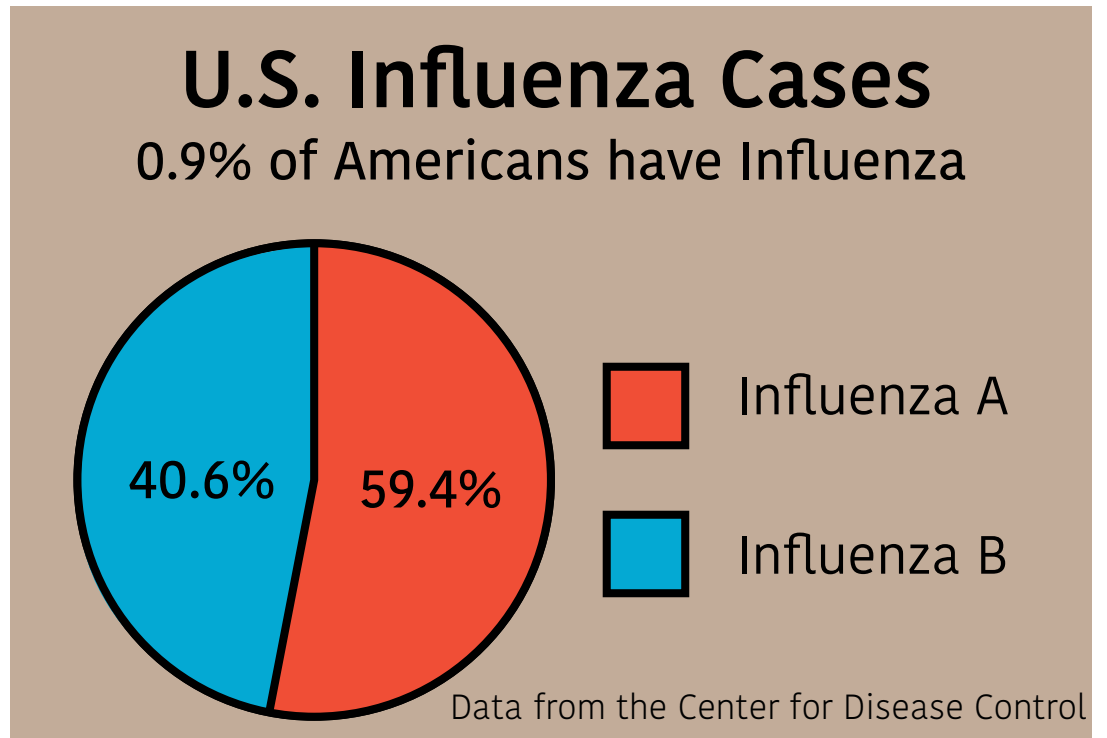
In addition to talking about how more people get the flu during the winter, Bishop also touched on people who get the vaccines and boosters to treat COVID and forget about the flu shots or vice versa.

“Some data suggests that the COVID vaccine [and] boosters from previous years have led to fewer people taking the traditional flu vaccine,” Bishop said. “However, to put that into perspective, there is also a documented decline in vaccination rates in general, which appears to be associated with a decline in trust in public health and more specifically to a general distrust in COVID vaccines.”

As a matter of fact, both the flu shot and COVID vaccine protect an individual against different viruses.

If a person is eligible to get one of the shots, the recommendation is to get both to be more protected.

Durfee mentioned how getting both vaccines can make someone



less likely to be exposed to any virus or sickness.

“Sometimes when you get a certain vaccine, your body’s immune system builds a reliability to the vaccine which would decrease how your body reacts to some viruses,” Durfee said.

Both the flu shot and COVID vaccine can be necessary to keep more people healthy and fewer people laying in their beds and blowing their noses.

Nick Campau, Ferris’ associate dean of student life, offered some advice that all students should consider during the colder weather.

“Get all the recommended vaccinations, stay home if you’re not feeling well, and communicate that to your professors and employer,” Campau said. “Also wash your hands regularly, and if you wish, wear a mask. I would advise this to all students as we begin to mi-

grate inside with the change in the weather.”

The Birkam Health Center plans to offer flu vaccine clinics at David Eisler Center on Oct. 10 from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Oct. 12 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for students who would like to get their annual vaccination. Contact (231) 591-2614 to learn more.

# Leadership Scholars pilot program begins

**Kathleen Camp**  
Culture Reporter

On Sept. 22, 50 new potential leaders attended a pilot program launched on campus for the LeaderShape Institute.

The LeaderShape Institute is a program designed to produce a breakthrough in the leadership capacity of the participants and facilitators on campus, which can be seen in their community or within their organization.

The program was founded in 1986 and has had almost 79,000 participants. The program is typically a four-day immersive experience in a lodge setting.

Director of Career and Professional Services Angela Roman decided to do a pilot LeaderShape program on campus that would meet once a month for eight months to help students gain leadership skills. She explained her decision to have LeaderShape on campus.

“When COVID happened in 2020 we could no longer get students in our residential locations,” Roman said. “We love the curriculum so much that we did not want to give up on the institute... So, I have talked with LeaderShape about how we can move the institution up here today.”

The course offers personal and group and guidance for a change in curriculum.

The LeaderShape experience is hands-on during the almost year-long project.

Students learn to incorporate their experiences on a resume and how to discuss what they learned in a job interview. All materials are at no cost to the students who decide to participate. The students will receive a LeaderShape certificate, an award at the Torchbearer Awards Ceremony and gradu-

ation regalia.

The main speaker at the conference was Associate Dean of Student Life Nick Campau. He explained the benefits of having the LeaderShape course on campus.

“Having this in-person reduces the costs,” Campau said. “There is no cost for lodging, food and transportation if we have the LeaderShape Institute class on campus. If this pilot program goes well, we plan to keep the LeaderShape program on campus in this format.”

The participants were very diverse in age range. Some of the younger students are likely just getting ready to enter the job market, while others are older students who may be able to use these new skill sets to help them lead others in their current careers.

Information systems student Nayyer Qasim explained why the LeaderShape program was important to him and how he felt he could benefit from this program.

“My thought process behind attending a professional development session like this was so I could improve my crowd handling skills, improve my decision making and learn how to make an informed decision,” Qasim said.

The goal of the Leadership Scholars program is to help shape the future leaders of tomorrow.

The program hopes that the participants have a positive experience, leaving them with the knowledge, confidence and skills to make an impact in their lives and the lives of others.



Photo by: Kathleen Camp | Culture Reporter

**Ferris students discuss new on-campus leadership program.**



# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Service held for Stormy Asanpi's celebration of life



Photo Credits: Jessica Oakes | Editor in Chief

### Stormy Asanpi's Mother Dana Greensky speaks at last week's memorial service.

Selena Quintero  
News Reporter

Members from the Ferris community and Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians gathered in Merrill/Travis Hall for Stormy Asanpi's celebration of life.

Asanpi, a freshman studying nursing, died on Sept. 5. On Thursday, Sept. 28, the sound of drums and loss echoed throughout the room of her memorial.

Traditional music was played in her honor by the Brave Scout drum group. Tobacco ties were set on the table for attendees to grab and pray with. According to Stormy's mom, Dana Greensky, raising her kids with traditional values was very important.

Greensky picked up a microphone and proceeded to commemorate her daughter's life.

"If you'd like to honor my daughter, choose love and show love," Greensky said.

Greensky shared how when Stormy passed, the family held a sacred fire alight for four days. It was raining, thundering and windy, yet the only awning that worked was the one over Asanpi's fire. Greensky described that moment as "comforting."

"She was really intentional with her actions," Greensky said. "She didn't do anything just barely, or slowly."

At just 16 years old, Asanpi had gotten a car and passport. She was said to manifest big goals in life which was shown through her vision board that was displayed at her memorial.

Those who spoke at the memorial focused on the passion and adventure that came from Asanpi. Her mother described how she respected people for who they were, never discriminated and was always supportive. Greensky said that Asanpi just wanted "everyone to be included and to be treated with care."

People mingled and made friendship bracelets in honor of Asanpi after the ceremony. Years of Asanpi's artwork were displayed next to the podium and a TV that played pictures of her throughout her life. Her vision board was laid across the bottom of the paintings. A spin on her favorite food, dessert pizza, was set out for everyone to snack on along with other refreshments.

Radiology freshman Skylar Laird had a connection with Asanpi since before college. Last year, they both dealt with the death of a friend.

"She held all of us together that night," Laird said. "She was trying to support and make sure everyone was okay before she was okay."

In hopes of gaining a higher education, experiencing the world and bringing that back to their community, Asanpi was granted scholarships and support systems to go to college within their tribal government.

A life long friend of the family introduced herself as Asanpi's "honorary auntie." She believed the next several generations would bring communities, tradition and

culture back together and that Stormy had already begun to do so and encouraged her peers to do so as well. According to Asanpi's aunt, Asanpi cherished living her best life and "worked smarter, not harder."

Social work graduate student Manny Ogua is the hall director of Merrill/Travis and Brophy/Mcnerney. He introduced and led Asanpi's memorial.

"Bringing people together from all different backgrounds, what an opportunity and blessing to come out of such a tragic situation," Ogua said.

Ferris faculty thanked the family for sharing Asanpi with them and shared appreciation for the time she spent on campus. The opportunity for the memorial arose after Manny and the faculty asked what they could do to help support the family further. The resident assistants coordinated the memorial for Asanpi.

"The RAs put it together, the planning, the purchasing and everything," Ogua said.

The family was grateful for getting to celebrate Asanpi's life.

"Thank you to the college for caring for Stormy like we would," Greensky said.

Towards the end of the memorial, Director of Housing Lisa Ortiz presented plaques in honor of Asanpi. One was given to the family, and one to hang up on a wall at Travis Hall so Asanpi's memory lives on at Ferris, as she will "always be a Bulldog."



Photo Credits: Jessica Oakes | Editor in Chief

Artwork and a vision board created by Stormy Asanpi.



# Parade unites Ferris community for 97th annual Homecoming



The You Beautiful Black Woman RSO walk in Saturday's Homecoming parade.

Photo Credits: Levi Waling | Torch Photographer



The Ferris State cheer team performs on Michigan Ave.

Photo Credits: Levi Waling | Torch Photographer

**Brook Blausey**  
Culture Reporter

The 2023 homecoming parade created lots of smiles as colorful floats and people filled the streets to celebrate the Bulldogs.

This year marked Ferris' 97th homecoming celebration. One of the last events before the finale football game against Northern Michigan was the Ferris Famous annual parade.

The parade consisted of registered student organizations, local businesses, the Big Rapids High School band and local police and firemen.

The parade lasted about an hour and went down Michigan Ave.

President Bill Pink believes the parade brings the Ferris community and Big Rapids community together.

"One of the nicest things about our parade is not only how our students and Ferris participate but it is also an amazing connection to the community," Pink said. "The parade is about the entire community because that's what this university is, it's a part of the community."

Pharmacy junior Bayleigh Kamm enjoys the closeness of Ferris and the town.

"It's very neat how close the

Ferris community is," Kamm said. "It was interesting to see who all came out for the parade to show their support for the Bulldogs."

The crowd was able to see this year's running homecoming ambassadors and wave to the town's firefighters.

The participants of the parade were handing out candy and coupons to local businesses.

"When you do the parade route, you see so many people from the community who come out and support, but you also see everyone who is in the parade," Pink said.

The parade also included younger students from the community by allowing the local high school band to participate.

Big Rapids High School band director Brian Balch enjoys his and his band students contribution every year.

"We are asked to be in the parade every year," Balch said. "We are pleased to be in the parade, and we are really happy to support Ferris."

The band spends every morning up until the parade practicing and preparing for their march and their halftime performances at the high school.



# Bringing disability awareness to Ferris

Ethan Edsall  
News Reporter

October is Disability Awareness Month and the Office of Education Counseling and Disability Services is putting on several events to help educate, promote awareness and celebrate those with disabilities.

Public relations junior Braden Gebbink is an intern in the ECDS office. He believes the office is “wonderful” in helping Ferris students with disabilities. However, he feels as though the university as a whole “could do more.”

“Sometimes I think that some people on campus treat disability awareness month as a puff piece,” Gebbink said. “The university could be more of a team player with the ECDS office and put more of an emphasis on promoting disability awareness month.”

Sophomore Will Knapp is a student who is on the autism spectrum.

“With Autism, our brains are wired differently. Autism does not hit the same person twice the same way, you can be either high functioning or low functioning,” Knapp said. “To me, it doesn’t make me disabled. I just think that I see the world from a different perspective than other people.”

Knapp has faced many struggles as a student at Ferris. These struggles include learning in the classroom and interacting with other students. He feels as though when he is nice to some, he gets a weird response back because his

approach is different from what is seen as normal.

Knapp believes the student body’s response to people with disabilities is mixed. He thinks that there are a great number of people on campus that are very positive and understanding about students with disabilities, but others who are not as understanding.

“There are people that are very patient and honorable and really don’t care that I have a disability, but I also think that some people are not as aware about how to treat people with disabilities,” Knapp said.

He sees that his odd interactions with students don’t come out of hatred, but more so out of a lack of awareness on how to treat someone with a disability without accidentally upsetting or insulting them. He feels that the university could do better at educating the Ferris community on how to appropriately approach students with disabilities.

Throughout the month, ECDS will be hosting events to educate and celebrate Disability Awareness Month. Some events include an open mic night on Oct. 9 and a book club on Oct. 24 about the book called “Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Advocate” by Judith Heumann and Kristen Joiner.



Graphic By: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

## Ferris 360

The likes and dislikes of the new platform

Kathleen Camp  
Culture Reporter

Ferris 360 has everything a student would need to stay up to date with classes, financial aid, groups, graduation, employment at Ferris and its own social networking built-in where students and staff can create and comment on discussion posts.

There are a multitude of reasons Ferris has switched out of MyFSU. One is that FSU could also be mistaken for Florida State University. Director of Marketing Eric Hazan explained that MyFSU was no longer supported by the vendor that ran the website.

“Any portion of the website had any issues or began to malfunction, they would have no one to fix it,” Hazan said. “That could potentially affect grades, class schedules, employees’ schedules or paychecks and classes that use Canvas. The University could not take the risk of something happening and not being able to fix the error.”

The Office of Registrar has the most searched sections listed on the regular Ferris website. A common issue within faculty has been with different parts of the time clock or their checks not showing up. Within Ferris 360, there is a section to submit feedback if students have any issues or other comments they would like to share.

“We need students and faculty to let us know any features they want to see or issues they are having,” Hazan said. They also plan on making Ferris 360 a mobile application so users can use the app on cell phones.

Disability services coordinator Cindy Smith’s office allows students who have a disability to schedule accommodations for an exam and gives access to Read Write software.

“We have not had any issues with the platform yet,” Smith said. “If students want to find Disability Services, they can find it under the Tools section on Ferris360 and can be added to your favorites to be easily found when you’re on your homepage.”

To get student’s opinions on Ferris 360, a poll has been posted on the website. According to this poll, 65% of students like the platform and find it easy to use.

Pre Med student Mariah Wilson enjoys the new look of the platform. She feels that it’s better than MyFSU and the new platform is more user friendly.

“I actually really mess with it,” Wilson said. “It’s way more up to date and easier to work.”

For more information and tips on how to use or troubleshoot Ferris360, check the Ferris event calendar to see when there are Ferris360 training sessions over Zoom.

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# Opinions

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## EDITOR'S COLUMN:

# Your phone is a pacifier



Photo: Jessica Oakes | Editor in Chief

**With her phone set to black and white, editor in chief Jessica Oakes looks to the outside world for enjoyment.**

### Jessica Oakes Editor in Chief

The leaves are a gorgeous range of green, yellow, orange and red, and my phone screen is in black and white.

One of the most long-lasting effects that pandemic-era virtual schooling has had on me is screen dependency.

Once again, I am sick of turning to my phone whenever the room is silent or I'm nervous about the task at hand. It was my anxious instinct to open Instagram and avoid everything else.

My phone was often something to keep my brain occupied and quiet, like a pacifier for a crying child.

I've confiscated the bright colors in my phone from myself, deleted most of my social media apps and

instructed my friends to remind me when I mindlessly scroll like an "iPad baby."

The point of it is to retrain my brain to look for something interesting in other places. It is genuinely frustrating to look for Instagram or a saturated home screen and find only a gray brick with a few missed calls or texts. I have to outsource my dopamine from the real world now.

I won't project my own bad habits onto my whole generation. I have friends who have never used social media. My best friend, co-worker and roommate turns to puzzle games like Kanoodle to occupy her mind instead of a phone.

On the other hand, I also know plenty of people my age who do not have the attention span to watch a movie in one sitting. I've

had too many conversations which made me feel like half of a split-screen, competing with TikTok for someone's attention.

It hurts to admit that our parents were right about "the damn phone." Forbes reports that Americans check their phones an average of 344 times per day, approximately once every 5.5 minutes.

It's hard to avoid constant phone checking. It's where we look at the time, schedules, emails, assignment notifications, texts and news. Apps are programmed to notify us for the smallest things once they see that we've been less active.

Instagram notifies us that someone we may know also uses the app. Netflix tells us when a new season for a show we've never watched comes out. YikYak shows

up on our home screens just to remind us that other people have posted that day.

My personal favorites are the sad, borderline cruel dating app messages users get before their profile is hidden from lack of use. They might as well say, "Someone just got a match! It wasn't you, though."

App programmers and advertisers depend on us using our phones impulsively. They're designed to keep us inside the app and forget that the rest of the world exists.

The next time you get your weekly screen time reminder, I invite you to look through those numbers and see how much of your life you scroll away every day.



# Living with kids on campus

## It takes a campus to raise future Ferris students



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

**Kathleen Camp**  
Culture Reporter

Most people picture life living on a college campus in a dorm where they get to study, hang out with friends and maybe attend a few college parties. What if you are not a traditional student? What if you already have a family and want to go back to college to make a better life for them? Are your kids going to be supported?

Many people decide later in life that they need to make a change for themselves and/or their family. They want to finish college or maybe change their career path, but how does this work for someone who has already started a family?

Here in Big Rapids, we have the option to bring our families on campus to live with us. And luckily here at Ferris, the kids are embraced and supported.

Living in the family section is a little bit different than living in the other forms of student housing. There are children playing and running around outside with no idea they are in a school-type setting. They are just being kids and enjoying their lives. They don't understand things like students' quiet hours for studying or the stress of studying for exams.

You often wonder as a parent, "Is my child being too loud? Can my neighbors hear my kid jumping

on the bed, or what to do if they get too loud." Remembering that they're kids and they're going to be a little loud sometimes goes a long way.

Living on campus with children requires a lot of patience, because not only do you have to be patient for your own children and the children and parents that live all around you. You must understand that we are all doing the best we can, and we are all trying to make better lives for ourselves and our children.

It is good to introduce yourself to your neighbors so that if any issues come up, they feel comfortable bringing them to you. Issues come up on campus like when other students get out of hand, and we must remember that there are also children living here to keep safe.

Our campus has a head-start program and a playground. The older children are allowed to have the school bus pick them up on campus. I feel very fortunate that my child has been well supported here.

They have a saying that says it takes a village to raise a child. Here at Ferris, it takes a campus to raise a child. We all must look out for each other because children are the future, and these future adults might also be Ferris students just like us one day.

# Attendance policies

## Are three days enough, too many or too few?

**Tate Zellman**  
News Reporter

College students and professors have their different opinions on attendance policies, saying three days is a good amount, or saying three is too many days.

You're going to have a day or two when they miss class. But missing too many classes for no good reason such as an illness or emergency can cause you to fail class and have to retake it a different term. Some professors have their policies where if a student misses three days or more without a proper reason, they'll fail the course.

Psychology sophomore James Held gave his opinion on whether three days being enough or not, and whether he thought students should or shouldn't fail a class if they had too many absences.

"Three days is nothing, and I don't think students should fail a certain course if they have too many absences," Held said. "However, maybe taking a certain number of points away could be necessary depending on the reason because students can take advantage of not showing up to class without any penalties."

I can see where Held was going when he said points could be taken away if students don't have a reasonable explanation for miss-

ing out on class. While attendance may only be a small portion of a student's final grade, the points still count, and the number of absences is tracked by professors. I agree with Held that points should be taken away from a student's overall grade for any unexcused or unreasonable absences.

Environmental biology sophomore Kate Babel mentions her opinion on failing or not failing students for too many absences and gives a different perspective than Held.

"I think it's fair for students to receive a failing grade for not attending class," Babel said. "I think it's fair because I believe that people should take responsibility for their own actions, if you don't show up for class then you face the consequences that come later. So, no, I don't think three days is enough."

I agree with this also. Students decide whether they show up to class or not. Skipping too many classes because they don't want to go to class proves that they don't particularly care about their education and don't care about the consequences of failing the course.

Neil Patten, a communication and humanities professor, briefly talked about the attendance policy for the classes he teaches, as well

as his number of unexcused absences that would result in failing his courses.

"My policy is two 'personal days' and excused absences beyond that with reasonable notice and sometimes documentation," said Patten. "More than five unexcused in a communication class, you don't pass the class."

Specifically for communication classes, Patten has it to five unexcused absences resulting in failing grade. Even though he never said three days was not enough days, we can assume that's a thought he had, explaining why he makes his attendance policy unexcused absences instead of three.

Zoe Ann Wendler, a professor in technical and professional communication, doesn't have an attendance policy for her courses, but mentions why it's important to attend her classes as much as possible.

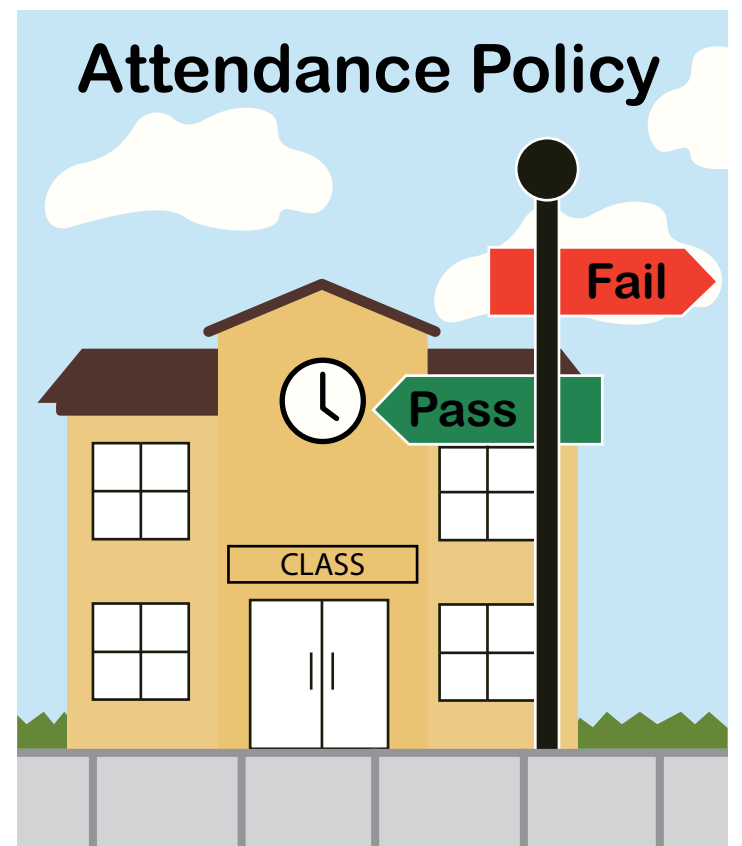
"I don't take attendance because I exclusively teach upper-division practicum courses," Wendler said. "When a student consistently skips classes like those, they don't pass because they just don't have access to the tools and skills they need in order to complete the work for the course."

I agree as well with this. It doesn't matter whether atten-

dance is taken or not, missing out on class means missing out on important material.

I feel that three days is not enough for attendance policies. I believe that since there's five days in a week, a good attendance policy should be five or

more unexcused absences which would result in a failing for grade no matter the student or course. Some would say that three days is a proper amount, too many or not enough. We're all entitled to our own opinions.



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager



# Sports

Dylan Rider | Sports Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

## Here kitty, kitty

Bulldogs set program record for points scored, trounce Wildcats 78-3



Photo credits: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

**Quarterback Trinidad Chambliss scores a touchdown in front of excited students during Saturdays homecoming game.**

**Jeffery Walker**  
Sports Reporter

The #1 ranked Ferris State Bulldogs decimated the Northern Michigan Wildcats in record setting fashion in their first inter-conference game this season on Saturday, Sept. 30.

Following their loss at Montana two weeks previous, the Bulldogs (3-1, 1-0 in conference) played with a vengeance as an offensive and defensive onslaught powered them to a 78-3 win over a winless Northern Michigan team (0-5, 0-1 in conference). The 78 points scored by the Bulldogs sets a new program record whilst prolonging a 12 year streak of the Bulldogs beating the Wildcats.

Head coach Tony Annese remained humble in the blowout victory, not giving much thought to setting a program record.

"I really don't care much about the record," Annese said. "I was

trying to temper down the number. [You] never want to put a big number on someone. But, you also don't want to like put yourself in a situation where you're setting your team up for failure."

Annese also added that he wanted the team to come into this game with a "sense of urgency" citing that you either "grow or you die."

The Bulldogs quickly put up 27 points in the first quarter while holding their opponents to zero. In the second quarter, the Bulldogs put 28 points and only allowed the Wildcats to score three points off a field goal.

Going into halftime with a 55-3 lead over the Wildcats. The Bulldogs went on to score 23 points in the second half and shut the Wildcats out to win the game. The 78 point effort topples a previous record set by the Bulldogs in 2014 when they played McKendree University and put up 75 points.

The Bulldog offense was firing at all cylinders, which is what Annese wanted the team to come out with, in what was their best offensive performance so far this year. The Bulldogs were able to reach deep into their depth chart and get multiple players time on the field.

One of those players was sophomore quarterback Trinidad Chambliss, who found it nice to be out on the field while also crediting his teammates for helping him have a big game.

"It was nice to run the ball and get out there," Chambliss said. "Props to my offensive line. They had a really good game moving a lot of defenders out there and making holes for me and also my receivers blocking on the outside."

Chambliss led the rushing attack for the Bulldogs rushing for 125 yards on 5 attempts and 2 touchdowns. The team rushed for 497 yards on 55 attempts with 8 touchdowns.

The passing game was successful early for the Bulldogs. Senior quarterback Mylik Mitchell went 6-7 on 139 yards and 2 touchdowns. The passing game had 208 yards and 3 touchdowns. Wide receiver Xavier Wade caught all three touchdowns on three receptions for 78 yards.

As impressive as the offense looked it was also an impressive showing from the defense. The defense allowed only 98 yards of total offense from the Wildcats, forcing 7 punts while getting four sacks and two interceptions.

Senior defensive lineman Olalere Oladipo had 2 sacks in the game and senior defensive back Shon Stephens snagged an interception. This was his third interception in as many games.

Oladipo sees that this Bulldog defense is growing, especially the defensive line, with their ability to get after the opposing team's quarterback.

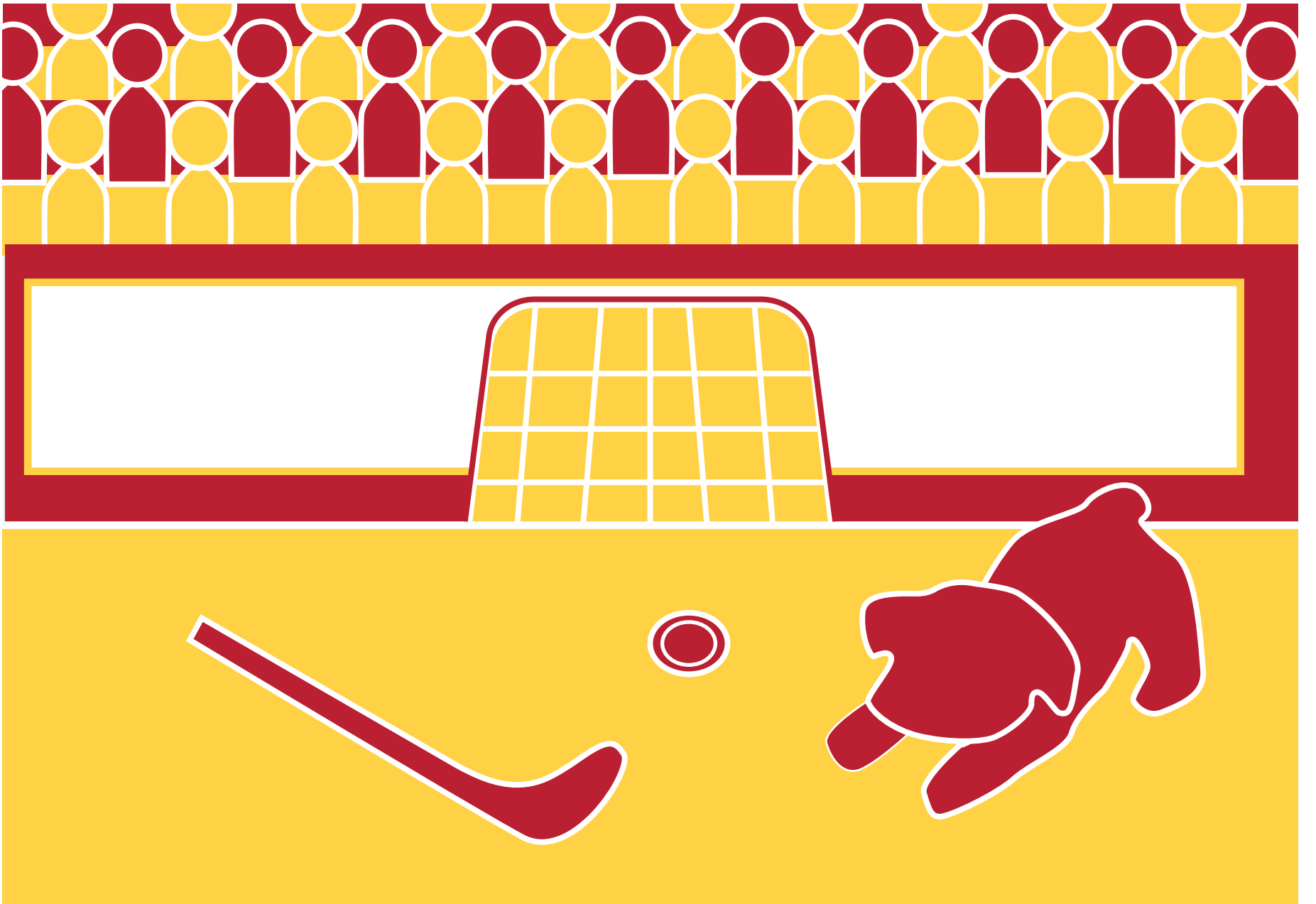
"We've grown every week after that first game," Oladipo said. "I can tell you our defensive line wanted to ring the necks of our secondary but these guys they're growing and we're growing as a defensive line too, we've been telling each other we got to get to the quarterback quicker and we've been doing that."

The Bulldogs will not only be looking to continue to grow but to also replicate the success they had in their first conference game in the games yet to come.

The Bulldogs will remain at home for their next contest against the Saginaw Valley State Cardinals. For the past two years, the Bulldogs have narrowly survived upsets against the Cardinals, beating them 33-28 last year and 47-45 in 2021. The second inter-conference match of the season will take place on Oct. 7 at Top Taggart Field. Game time is set for 1 p.m.



# Ferris State hockey returns for 48th season



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

## The Bulldogs look to make a splash in the CCHA

**Dylan Rider**  
Sports Editor

Seven months following their loss against Minnesota State in the CCHA playoff semifinals, the Ferris State hockey team looks to continue their progress.

The Bulldogs broke a long-standing drought of playoff game and series wins last season when they swept the Bowling Green Falcons in the best-of-three CCHA quarter-finals.

The Bulldogs finished the year with a record of 14-19-4 and an in-conference record of 9-14-3.

Despite their first playoff game and series win since 2015-16, the needle has not moved for their expectations. They have been picked to finish seventh in the CCHA, according to the CCHA preseason coaches' poll. Since the CCHA reformed in 2021-22, the Bulldogs have been picked to place seventh each year.

Head coach Bob Daniels, who is entering his 31st year with the program and only 13 wins away from 500 career wins, feels the same as he did last year with rankings.

"I feel, like most teams, that we're better than where we were selected," Daniels said. "We finished sixth last year and made it to the final four of our playoffs. We're returning a wealth of talent from last year's team. We're fortunate to have our top line back in Antonio

Venuto, Stephan Pokorny and Jason Brancheau. That's a combined 25 goals coming back."

Last year, Daniels stated that he had been in hockey long enough to know "that the rankings more reflect the last season and [are] a prediction on this season."

As mentioned by Daniels, the Bulldogs are retaining their leading scorer in senior forward Jason Brancheau. The recently named alternate captain scored 21 points in 35 games last year. Joining Brancheau in a fifth and final season as a Bulldog is senior defenseman captain Brenden MacLaren. MacLaren, who split the captaincy with former defenseman Matt Slick last year, is pleased to finish his career at Ferris.

"It means a lot to me," MacLaren said. "This program has a great history and the coaching staff has a great history. Even the town of Big Rapids comes together when we're having success on the ice, it just brings a better environment to the rink."

MacLaren is also proud to be alongside Brancheau, stating, "I don't think we [would] have it any other way."

As expected when a new season is on the horizon, some new faces donning the crimson and gold this year. The Bulldogs added five freshmen, one senior grad transfer and a familiar face returns to the team:

### Additions for the Bulldogs:

Freshman forward Holden Doell 19 years old, last with Battlefords North Stars of the SJHL 33G, 67A, 100P in 49GP in 2022-23

Freshman defenseman Jack Mesic 20 years old, last with North Iowa Bulls of the NAHL, captain for the Bulls 7G, 29A, 36P in 58 GP in 2022-23

Freshman forward Emerson Goode 20 years old, last with the Odesa Jackalopes of the NAHL 29G, 19A, 48P in 60 GP in 2022-23

Freshman defenseman Trevor Taulien 20 years old, last with the Odesa Jackalopes of the NAHL 3G, 4A, 7P in 25 GP in 2022-23

Freshman forward Luigi Benincasa 20 years old, last with Spruce Grove Saints of the AJHL 31G, 48A, 79P in 60GP in 2022-23

Senior defenseman Nick Hale 24 years old, grad-transfer from College of the Holy Cross, captain for Holy Cross 7G, 10A, 17P in 35GP

Junior defenseman Nico DeVita 22 years old, transfer from the University of New Hampshire, played for Ferris State in 2021-22 0G, 0A, 0P in 7GP in 2022-23

### Subtractions for the Bulldogs:

Senior defenseman Matt Slick 4G, 6A, 10P in 33GP in 2022-23, no eligibility remaining.

Senior defenseman Blake Evennou 1G, 14A, 15P in 35GP in 2022-23, signed with Atlanta Gladiators of the ECHL

Sophomore forward Bradley Marek 7G, 10A, 17P in 36GP in 2022-23, signed with San Jose Barracuda of the AHL

Senior forward Dallas Tulik 3G, 3A, 6P in 18GP in 2022-23, transferred to Robert Morris University

Junior forward Mitch Deelstra 7G, 6A, 13P in 33GP in 2022-23, transferred to Northern Michigan University

Junior defenseman Luke Farthing 1G, 3A, 4P in 20GP in 2022-23, transferred to Canisius College

Senior defenseman Brenden Rons 0G, 0A, 0P in 11GP in 2022-23, transferred to Lindenwood University

Senior forward Cade Kowalski 3G, 1A, 4P, in 20GP in 2022-23, transferred to University of Prince Edward Island

According to Brancheau, the incoming freshmen have "bought in." To freshman defenseman Trevor Taulien, buying in means

one thing.

"It just means we're all ready to go," Taulien said. "We want to win this year. We want to go far. We talked as a team and [we've] got together as a team."

The chemistry between the rookies and the Bulldog veterans doesn't seem to be an issue as Taulien added that the team has been "super close since day one."

Alongside additions, there will always be roster turnover. Lack of eligibility and the transfer portal remains a threat to collegiate rosters.

Bulldog hockey is set to return on Saturday, Oct. 7 and Sunday, Oct. 8 to take on the Miami (OH) RedHawks, just as they have for the past two seasons.

The puck drop for Saturday's matchup is set for 7:07 p.m. while Sunday's is 5:07 p.m.

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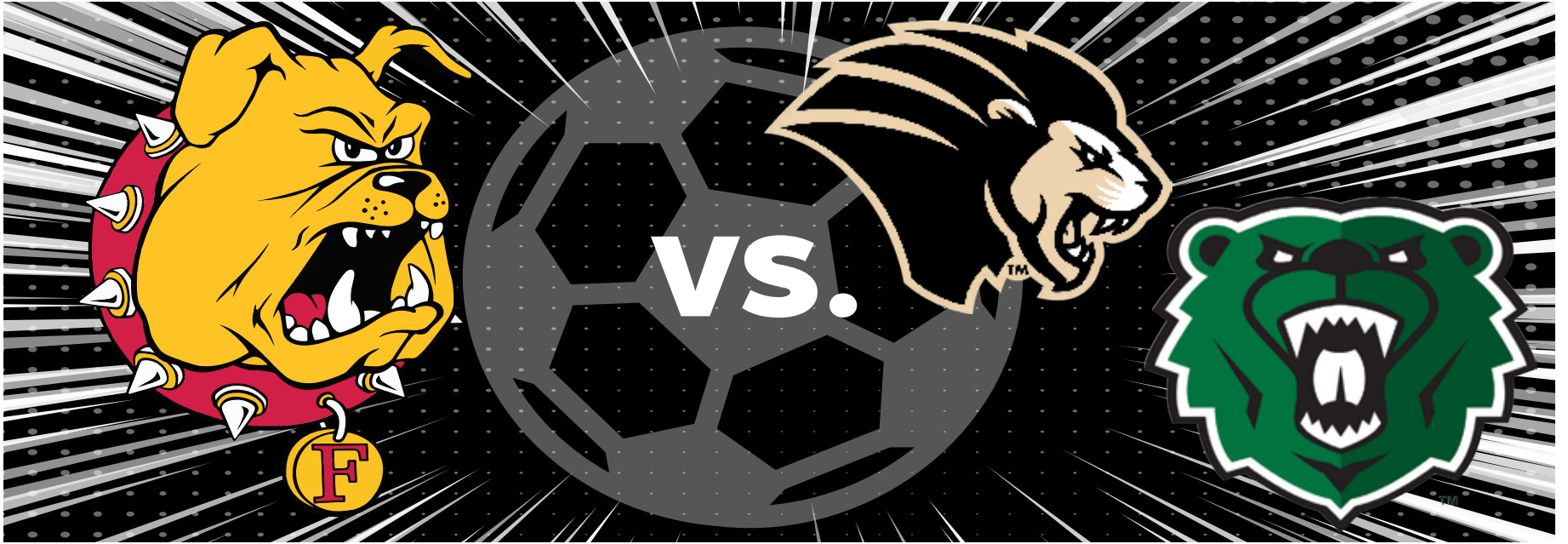


@fsutorch



# Soccer rebounds in winning weekend

Bulldogs beat Pride and draw with Rangers



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant



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**Jack Alcorn**  
Sports Reporter

Ferris State women's soccer rebounded from a winless weekend with an undefeated weekend against Purdue Northwest on Friday, Sept. 29 and Wisconsin-Parkside on Sunday, Oct. 1.

The Bulldogs (3-4-3, 1-3-2 in conference) snapped a six game winless streak with a 2-0 win over the Purdue Northwest Pride (2-6-2, 0-5-1 in conference) before starting a two game shutout streak when they tied 0-0 against the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers (4-3-2, 1-3-2 in conference).

Following the Bulldogs' loss to the Michigan Tech Huskies last weekend, head coach Greg Henson believed the team needed to up their game.

"We just got to be better at pretty much all phases of the game," Henson said.

The Bulldogs were winless in conference-play heading into Friday's match at Purdue Northwest. The Pride were also winless in conference and both teams shared a 2-4-2 record heading into the game. Last season, the Bulldogs swept the Pride with a 1-0 victory and a 4-0 victory.

The Pride's formation had the Bulldogs pinned in their half of the field for most of the game. However, the Bulldogs' formation gave the Pride trouble all game while forcing them into making mistakes.

Freshman midfielder Isabella Baron, who scored in the contest, felt prepared with the practice that the team had leading into this game.

"We worked really hard in practice on pressing the ball to help us prepare," Baron said. "We focused on moving as a team to move the ball forward and switch the field".

The team sustained offensive pressure against the Pride's goalkeeper, creating quality chances over and over. Despite the pressure, they were not able to score until the 53rd minute when senior forward Payton Price tapped in the first goal of the match. Twenty minutes following the first score, Baron was able to take advantage of a poorly deflected ball and score for 2-0 lead.

Baron described how she posi-

tioned herself to get the goal.

"We had two runners in the box," Baron said. "I held my run until the ball was crossed, and it popped out in front of the goal for me to shoot it."

Purdue Northwest's fight was all for nought as Bulldogs held on to end the game 2-0. Ferris' counter attacking style gave them 10 shots on goal to Purdue Northwest's five. Senior midfielder Brinley Bell finished with two assists while Price added to her goal tally, making her the leading scorer on the season with three goals.

The Bulldogs have never lost to Purdue Northwest since joining the GLIAC in the 2017-18 season. The win also solidifies a shutout streak against Purdue Northwest of four games, which dates back to Oct. 22, 2021.

The Bulldogs looked to spark a two game win streak when they traveled to Kenosha, Wis. for a match against the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers.

The game, which resulted in a 0-0 tie, was all defense. The field of play was constantly flipped, with both teams registering shots on goal. The Bulldogs had eight shots on goal while the Rangers had five of their own. Neither team could put the ball in the back of the net.

With the score still 0-0 heading into the final minute, the Bulldogs had one last push to break the deadlock. Price received a pass from sophomore defender Ella Wolf and got behind the Parkside defense. Wolf's shot went narrowly over the crossbar and the game ended with no goals from either team.

The draw continues the undefeated streak that the Bulldogs hold over the Rangers, which dates back to the 2018-19 season. This is the first time that the Bulldogs have not defeated the Rangers.

Price, who has been crucial for the Bulldogs in scoring, stated after last week's winless slate that the team just needed to "win one to continue winning."

The Bulldogs will get another chance to continue their winning ways on Friday, Oct. 6 when they face a Saginaw Valley State Cardinals team that sports a 6-2-2 record. Gametime is scheduled for 4 p.m.