

25 years of the Ferris Foundation Benefit

Alumni raise over \$200,000 for the Foundation



Photos courtesy of Andrew Schmidt

Brutus the Bulldog and Dr. Pink dress in black-tie at the 25th annual Ferris Foundation Benefit held in downtown Grand Rapids.

Jessica Oakes
Editor in Chief

The 25th annual Ferris Foundation for Excellence Benefit brought current and former Bulldogs to the JW Marriott in Grand Rapids.

By the end of the night, Ferris Foundation Chair Arlen-Dean Gaddy announced a running total of \$225,747 in donations. As of Monday, Nov. 13, the final total amounted to \$247,602.

Once deposited into the Fund for Ferris, this money will be allocated by the Foundation's Board of Directors. Potential recipients include faculty and staff merit grant applicants and students awarded with university scholarships.

Ferris alumna and Foundation board member Dana King has taken it upon herself to develop a scholarship for Ferris students.

King graduated with a degree in marketing in 1982. After decades

of work in television sales and broadcast media, she is now an award-winning sculptor.

A Big Rapids native, King flew in from her current home in Florida for the weekend's gala.

"I love this event," King said. "It is really for the students. We want the students who are here and those who couldn't be with us tonight to understand how many people support them and why they support them."

King credits Ferris for her confidence to explore the world, from Big Rapids to Oakland, California, to Vero Beach, Florida. She still feels that she's always welcome back to her alma mater.

When she's back in Michigan, King values her time with students who now benefit from Foundation scholarships.

"Now that I've come several years in a row, I get to see students that I have met over the

years," King said. "It's aspirational. I hear what they're up to and how their roles have changed. It's like catching up with family,"

Second year pre-pharmacy student Emma Walters is a 2023 scholarship recipient. She attended the gala to interact with alumni and donors, and encourage them to make further donations for future students.

"[The scholarship] is a real help," Walters said. "I am at college fully on financial aid. It's wonderful and nice to know that there are people out there who still support Ferris, alumni or otherwise. It makes my education possible."

When Ferris alum and founder of Social Media Energy Luke Wyckoff isn't spending time in Colorado, he can be found across campus with a camera in hand. He often photographs Bulldog hockey at Ewingleben Ice Arena. The former Foundation board member is a

long-time donor for the university.

"I donated tonight because when a lot of other schools didn't give me an opportunity when I was 18 years old, Ferris State did," Wyckoff said. "I wasn't a strong high school student. So, a lot of schools said no. But Ferris State gave me a chance. And that's what made all the difference for the world for me. Every chance I get to pay it forward for students, I always will."

Attendees of the gala heard speeches from President Bill Pink and three keynote speakers. They shared a similar sentiment about the value of higher education, especially that which is offered at Ferris.

"Never be intimidated by others from these Ivy league schools," alumna and keynote speaker Vivian Pickard said. "The buildings are just bigger at these other schools and the checks are bigger."

Both Pink and Pickard confi-

dently stated that they would place a degree from Ferris State next to "any other degree in the country."

Looking forward for the university, Pink alluded to big announcements to be released in the coming months. In his own words, "it's time."

"Tonight was meant to set the stage for what we believe is to come for our university," Pink said. "We are putting our university in a position where we are going to really do some amazing things... It's time for us. Not only for the community to say it's time for Ferris, we ourselves need to say it's our time. And that's what tonight was about."

Visit Ferris' website for more information on the Ferris foundation and continue reaching for the Torch for the latest announcements from Pink's office.

Students rally for Palestine

story on page 2

News

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

Students rally for Palestine

Pro-Israel and pro-Palestine organizers gather at north campus



Photo Credit: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

An officer walks through a student-led demonstration outside of the David L. Eisler Center.

Giuliana Denicolo
Culture Editor

One month after the October invasion of Israel by Hamas forces, Ferris students took to campus to voice their beliefs on the ongoing conflict.

Several students present at the demonstration asked for their names and photos to be excluded from all Torch coverage out of concern for their safety.

Why are you here today?

Cyber security sophomore Yasmin Nasir:

"I want the U.S. to stop supporting this genocide. They need a ceasefire right now."

Welding engineering senior Forrest Hamilton:

"I'm here today because more than 10,000 people have died in Gaza. This is a genocide of the Palestinian people. When I wake up in the morning, I think about every 10 minutes after I wake up, somebody dies in Gaza. It's sickening, and it ruins my soul and my ability to love and communicate with people. And it's sickening that nobody's talking about it. You understand what's going on, but you do nothing about it."

Anonymous student:

"I'm here today because I don't think it's wrong for Israel to defend themselves from specifically Hamas."

Why do you think this has anything to do with students?

Nasir:

"Because students should pro-

test for a ceasefire. And because the U.S. is using all citizens' money including students' money and employees' money."

Hamilton:

"A human life as a human life, you should value the life of the person who's sitting and standing next to you."

Anonymous student:

"This is relevant to students because this is something that is happening in current events. This is something that we are seeing history unfold yet again. I think it's important to have strong ally ties. I also think it's important to know the history of the locations that we inhabit. And I think it's important to know about really care about generally what's going on in the world. There's a large stereotype that

Americans are unaware of current events, there's a large stereotype that Americans don't even know their basic geography. And I think that is utterly stupid."

What is the point of student organizing?

Nasir:

"I don't know about politics, but it hurts me to see this genocide. Every time I open my phone, I'm seeing kids bombed. This hurts me a lot."

Hamilton:

"We're the future. So we need to be working together to organize and change our future for the better. If we just think we shouldn't care about it because it's happening in another country, it's a sickening idea. Because we're not just

citizens of the United States, we're citizens of the entire world. To solve the problems that are going on, we need to work with the entire world and we need to organize our student bodies together so that we can work for for better lives for us and the people in front of us."

Anonymous student:

"The point of student organizing is to build a community and to open a place for debate and varied thoughts. I feel like in recent times, people are within usage of like online spaces, people are ending up in echo chambers and are unable to fully flesh out their thoughts. I feel like a lot of people end up on a slippery slope of 'this is what I believe in.'"

Honors options expand

Service hours and cultural events reporting options change for honors students

Tate Zellman
News Reporter

Starting this semester, the Honors Program is giving honors students a new requirement option that can help them find another way to achieve their service hours and cultural event requirements.

The Honors Program has a set of requirements that students have to follow for them to continue having a program membership. The requirements used to be that every student had to maintain a 3.3 GPA, as well as attend six cultural events and do 30 hours of service per year. Now this semes-

ter, either an honors course or an honors contract can count toward requirements. Doing either one will account for three cultural events and 15 service hours for the academic year.

Honors Advisor and Assistant Professor of the Honors Program Catherine Bordeau knows that students will benefit from learning whether they decide to take an honors course or do an honors contract.

"Students who opt to take an honors class or do an honors contract will learn more in their class and have more contact with their professor," Bordeau said.

"Honors classes are capped at 23 students, which helps foster more interaction, and they provide more opportunities to learn in different ways. The opportunity to learn under the guidance of a professor is educationally very rich."

This new requirement option is that honors classes and contracts can give students an advantage. They make progress on credentials appearing on students' transcripts. This can motivate students to look more into the results of taking an honors course or doing an honors contract.

Business administration sophomore Brooke Boron, who is part of

the Honors Program, is doing the new requirement. Despite the program offering some positives, she knows that there can be negatives if students decide to take it.

"If students choose to only do the course/contract requirement, they could spend too much time on their academic rather than getting themselves involved on campus," Boron said. "The main concern would be whether or not honors students would be able to create that balance in their lives rather than only focusing on academics with this new requirement."

If students struggle with the new requirement option, the Honors

Program can help. On Nov. 2nd, Bordeau sent an email to all honors students mentioning the new requirement option. In the email she mentioned that the main goal is for students to be engaged in the Honors Program, and that includes helping them if needed.

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AI: help or hinderance?

The use of AI at Ferris



Generated using Adobe Firefly

Due to the topic of the article, the Torch's production team decided to use AI to generate this graphic.

Alexandra Brickley
Special Editions Editor

With deadlines for finals just around the corner, it can make one stressed or overwhelmed and might spark the idea to have AI write the paper.

The end of the writers' strike does bring to light the use of AI in the workplace, the agreement being that it can't be used to cut out writers or reduce their pay. Also, the actors' strike now over as of Nov. 7, getting them similar wins.

As time goes on, ongoing legislation is being made around its use, such as the ruling of the U.S. copyright office that AI generated art can't be copyrighted, with the agreement with the Writer's Guild and Actors Guild, previous discussions that were once fuzzy are becoming clearer.

Here at Ferris, things are more open-ended, other than it being cheating when not authorized. Nothing about it being plagiarism,

just that it could be considered cheating without it being expressly listed or named.

"I was amazed by how behind we were. I think it snuck up on us, here at Ferris and many other institutions," Writing Center Director Dr. David Marquard said.

However, it still begs the question of where Ferris stands. The use of AI is something that the college hasn't drawn any hard lines on, leaving it up to the professor to handle. Which could be a good or bad thing depending on the professor.

"I believe that the decision about AI should be made by the instructors and not the university as a whole," history professor Dr. Jana Pisani said.

When thinking about AI as a tool, having the open ability to use it as such makes sense as it allows for its use as a learning tool and keeps students at the forefront of technology. However, its misuse is the crux of the issue,

as it's used not only as a tool but as a means to quickly and easily complete assignments.

The use of AI to complete whole papers is where the issue of it being plagiarism and, thus, a violation of academic integrity, more than it already could be, lies. The idea of higher education is to learn, which is done through lectures and assignments.

"The most important reason is that by letting AI complete papers for them, students are not learning the skills of researching, analysis, critical thinking, and writing that they should develop by the time they graduate, no matter the major," Pisani said.

This is where the differences in the use of AI by students show. When it's used to write a whole paper, it opens the user to the generative capabilities of the AI, while never fully considering the possible bias or where it's pulling its information from to generate the paper. Thus, leaving out the

fuller picture that can be given by researching with proper filtering and peer-approved works. This dilemma is also addressed in an article by Forbes, 'The problem with biased AI's (and how to make AI better).'

"If you're going to put your name to something you better be very wake and looking at those nuances," Marquard said.

The other way AI is being utilized is to create an outline or to generate ideas or different ways of phrasing information. AI's use comes down to whether it's being used as a tool with which to create and learn or if it's being used as a means to an end.

At the moment, there's no way to accurately tell if something is written by AI or not. Though for now, the biggest tell is when it spits out something entirely off-topic, taking that paper about the history of the combustion engine to talking about Elvis Presley for a paragraph. Outside of those

instances, there's no way to tell the difference between AI and human written papers. Pisani explained that this means changing how students are assessed by their professors.

For now, no one knows what those changes could be, as Ferris State has no actual policies on the use of AI by students. These changes could mean having more handwritten assignments or doing more classroom work. While it can seem a bit much to move backward to handwriting, it might not have to be that way.

For now, the use of AI in college classes is up in the air. The changes it brings with each advancement leaves many uncertain. Some students are going to use it regardless of if there's a policy or not, some will use it as a tool and others as an easy way out. While AI can be hard to talk about it can make all the difference.

ON THE RECORD

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Roommate Fight

Nov. 11, 7:45p.m.- Officers responded to Hallisy Hall after roommates were reported as not getting along. There was destruction to property. The case was referred to judicial review.

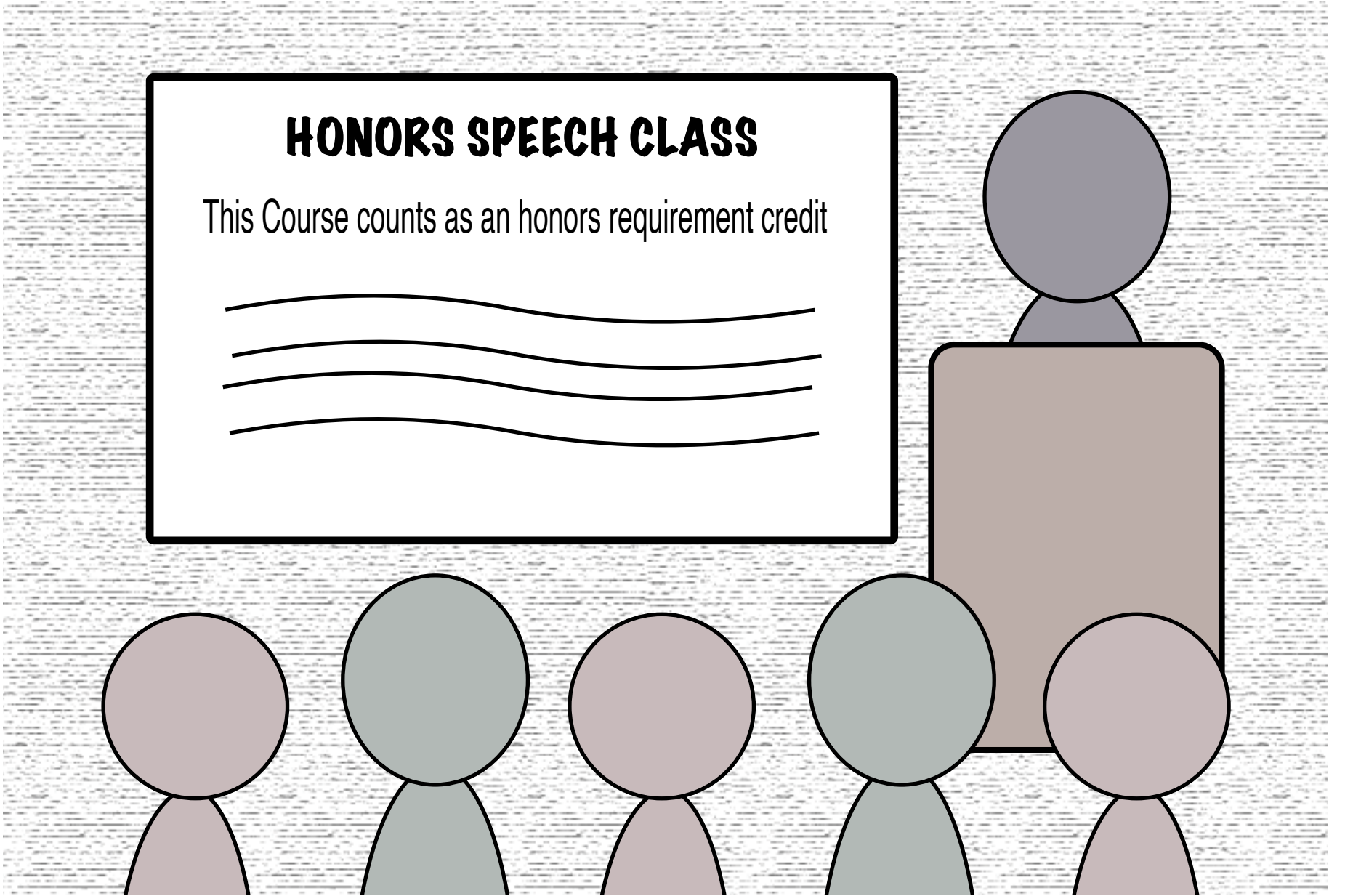
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Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

“Honors Requirement” CONT.

Digital animation and game design sophomore Jason Zawacki is also an honors student. He hopes that students have a helpful learning experience if they decide to take the new requirement option. “I hope that students learn more about the areas that they are

studying by taking required courses for their majors,” Zawacki said. “Choosing to take the honors version to gain a deeper understanding of the principles of that subject while being incentivized to do so by the honors program.”
 Bordeau encourages honor students to take the new requirement option not only because of its opportunities for credits, but as it al-

lows students to free up their time, which she finds to be a benefit for students who decide to take it. “The new requirement option will free up time for honors students to do any extra work required in an honors class or do an honors contract, an extra project for a non-honors class for honors credit,” Bordeau said. “Our array of membership maintenance options

will allow students greater choice in how they benefit from the Honors Program.”
 Even though the semester has only a few weeks left, students can still become a member of the Honors Program and take part in the new requirement option. They can add an honors course for the spring 2024 semester by selecting a course with “honors” or “hnrs”

in the title through an Advance Search in Look Up Classes and then choosing “Honors Course” under Attribute.
 Contact Honors@ferris.edu to learn more and discover opportunities to get involved in the Honors Program.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Michigan: By 2040, Michigan hopes to become a 100% clean energy state.
 The bill requires that Michigan will use carbon-free sources such as solar, wind, nuclear, geothermal or hydropower for energy by 2040 according to MLive.
 “These bills will balance reliability and affordability and help us protect our air and our water and improve public health,” Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said. “They will help us bring home more cutting-edge manufacturing investments so we can make solar panels, wind turbines, and more right here in Michigan, supporting good-paying jobs, high-skill jobs that are a ticket to the middle class.”
 Republican Sen. Thomas Albert

criticized the bill, stating that it needs to happen more naturally, rather than rushed.
 “The Democrats’ climate agenda is moving too far too fast, and ignores important consequences,” said Albert. “Michigan already has energy that costs too much and a supply grid that fails too often. This misguided plan would make things even worse for families and businesses at a time they can least afford it.”
 Under definitions lawmakers have passed, natural gas plants can be considered clean, as long as they can effectively catch and store carbon permanently, 90% of the time.
 It is set to be the third state in the Midwest with this change, and 12th twelfth in the country. The bill also has renewable energy targets set at 15% for 2027, 50% for 2030 and 60% for 2035.

GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

India: On Monday afternoon, Delhi’s air quality index was 445, according to Safar, the federal governments app for monitoring the air quality.
 The air quality index shows the severity of the quality, and any number above 400 is considered severe.
 Delhi has been facing high air pollution for several weeks due to the levels of emissions crop burning has had according to BBC News.
 Firecrackers were banned during celebrations, except for those with low emissions in an attempt to lower emissions. However, Sunday night, there were reports that people were lighting off firecrackers in celebration despite the ban.
 The environmental minister Gohil Rai and member of the Aam Aadmi

Party speculated that leaders from the Bharatiya Janata Party had convinced people to light off the firecrackers.
 “Not many people have burst firecrackers, but it was done in some places in a targeted manner,” said Rai.
 Bharatiya Janata Party president Virendra Sachdeva responded to Rai, saying that the people celebrating were not the cause of the pollution, and that the Aam Aadmi Party needed to have a more structured plan to resolve the air pollution.

Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

HLCC's Day of the Dead Ball



Photo Credits: Levi Waling | Photographer

In one of first events under their new name, the Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center hosted a Day of the Dead Ball on Nov. 10 in the DEC ballrooms. Over 40 students came together to honor their deceased loved ones and to celebrate the holiday with dancing and refreshments.

Interested in guest writing?



Guest writing available for opinions and special editions

For more information contact us
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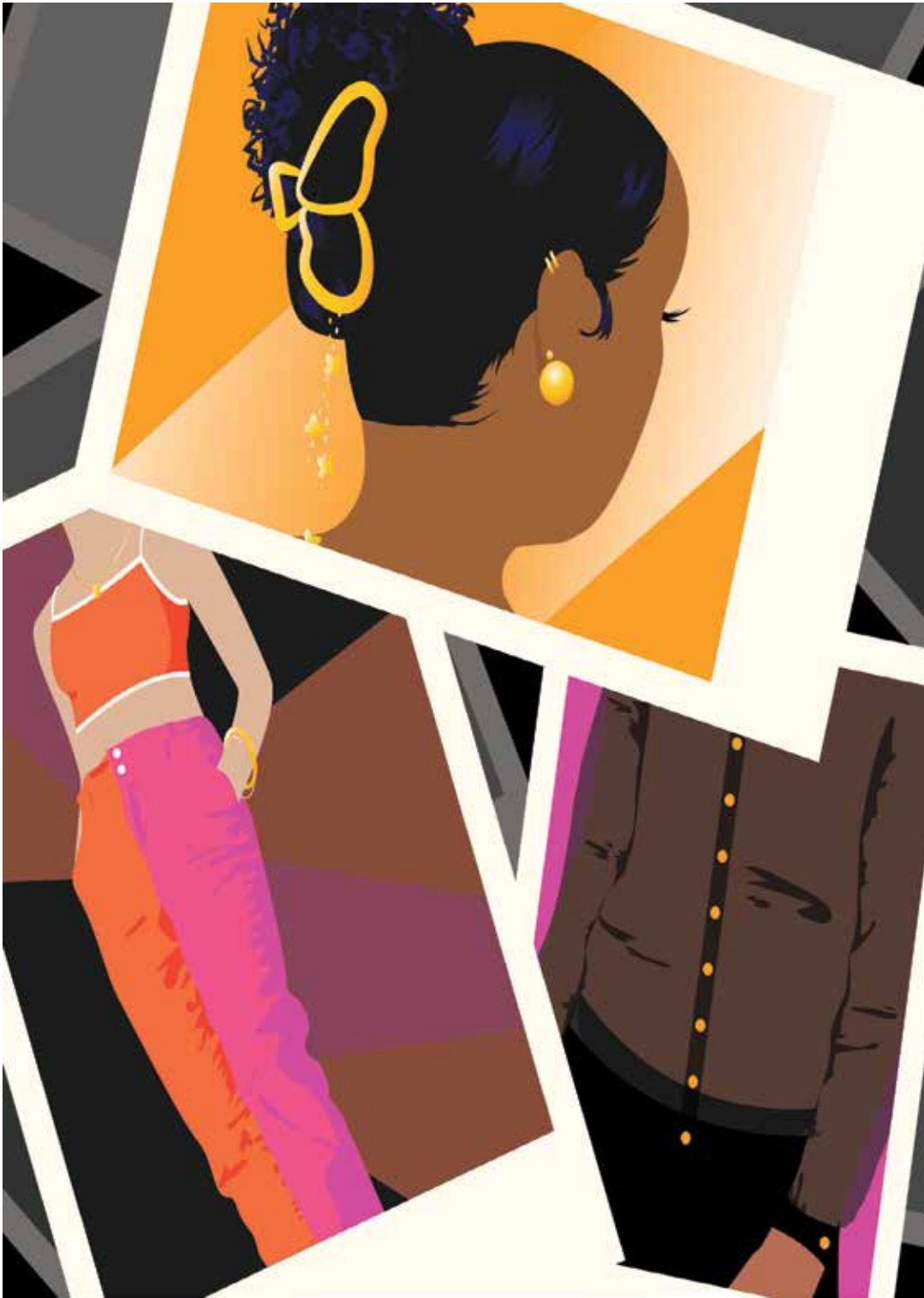
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Getting ready for the runway

Student Fashion Alliance prepares for their annual fashion show



Graphic from Torch archives

Kendall Phillips
Culture Reporter

The Student Fashion Alliance, a registered student organization, is practicing their walks in preparation for their annual fashion show with the help of their new president.

Biology and pre-chiropractic junior Jayla Reed is the new president of Ferris' Student Fashion Alliance. According to Reed, the fashion alliance is a place to "get out of your comfort zone" and "express yourself" through style and fashion.

"The fashion alliance is a place where you can get an understanding of different styles and different categories of fashion," Reed said. "But mainly, it's for you to show off what kind of brands you can wear, and to show off who you are as a person."

Reed said that her plan for her upcoming presidency involves a lot of fundraising and events throughout the community. Many events are in the works for this year, but the biggest one is their annual fashion show.

The fashion show is a time for the group to show off what they have been working on throughout the year. Usually, the fashion show takes place in January, but according to Reed, this year the fashion show will be held at the beginning of February during friends and family weekend.

Reed explained that the hardest part of her presidency this far has been finding participation and places for their organization to practice.

"Trying to find people to participate has been a struggle," Reed said. "It's been hard for our members to balance personal life, school and work, while also finding time to practice for the runway. The fashion alliance is supposed to help you learn how to walk, so our practices are extremely essen-

tial."

Mechanical engineering technology junior Marshawn Lee is the Vice President of the RSO. He got involved in the SFA through a friend, but also as a way to show off his own personal sense of style.

Lee describes Reed as a very "understanding and relatable" president and explains that she is always making sure that the whole team is on the same page.

"It's honestly nice working as the vice president alongside [Reed]," Lee said. "We communicate very well and are always looking for time to get together and organize our future plans for the fashion alliance."

Music business and entertainment junior Cervonte Plair is the secretary of the SFA. He believes that Reed's communication, dedication and creativity are what make her an excellent president.

Plair was very excited when he found out that Ferris offered an organization such as the SFA.

"Ever since I was a little kid I loved fashion," Plair said. "Putting outfits together and I always like to dress nice everywhere I go. I was surprised we had this RSO here at Ferris, so I was interested and wanted to check it out."

Plair said he has loved working alongside Reed, and he describes their relationship as a "brother-sister" bond.

"It's so much fun working with [Reed], she's funny when we're in meetings but also professional," Plair said. "She's motivated to have an amazing fashion show and bring awareness to the SFA by doing events on campus and starting our new Instagram page."

You can find the SFA's new Instagram page at [fsu_fashionalliance](https://www.instagram.com/fsu_fashionalliance). Stay tuned for future Torch coverage on their annual fashion show.

Candlelight vigil brings awareness

Honoring those who lost their lives to domestic violence

Kathleen Camp
Culture Reporter

On Nov. 9, the Anti-Violence Alliance hosted the fifth annual candlelight vigil in honor of October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

According to Haven Oakland, a women's shelter, "Over 100 domestic violence-related homicides occur in Michigan every year."

This event is for recognizing and remembering those who have died due to domestic violence. With six participants, the event started off with a presentation that described what domestic violence is. The second half of the event focused on the list of names of the people who have died in the last year from domestic violence in the state of Mich. Then a poem written by a domestic violence survivor was read.

Ferris alumni Sydney Mingori is the Violence Prevention Coordinator for the AVA. During the presentation, Mingori stated that the AVA is a small organization on campus that specializes in educating staff, students and faculty about interpersonal violence. According to Mingori, AVA provides resources for domestic violence victims and concerned friends and family.

CONT. ON Page 7



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Media Minute

Pulp Fiction



Graphic by: Lucas Gill | Web Editor

Lucas Gill
Web Editor

Considered to be one of the most influential films of all time, “Pulp Fiction” is director Quentin Tarantino’s second feature-length film.

Released in 1994, “Pulp Fiction” displays three intertwining crime stories that all take place in Los Angeles. The film is an homage to the violent, witty crime novels of the mid-twentieth century, with the title itself referencing the pulp magazines that were popular during the time.

Tarantino has greatly improved his craft when it comes to storytelling and ironing out his directing style. The nonlinear narrative and chapter layout greatly weave together these interesting plots to tell an engaging story.

“Pulp Fiction” has one of the most iconic casts in movie history. The film stars Samuel L. Jackson as Jules Winnfield, a philosophical hitman who is paired with his burger-loving partner Vincent Vega, played by John Travolta. The two are dispatched to recover a stolen suitcase belonging to crime boss Marsellus Wallace, played by Ving Rhames.

This main storyline is interwoven with other characters such as Wallace’s wife, aspiring actress Mia Wallace, played by Uma Thurman and prizefighter Butch, a boxer under Wallace’s thumb who is looking for an escape from the city, played by Bruce Willis.

The movie also features some familiar faces from Tarantino’s first film “Reservoir Dogs.” Tim Roth plays Ringo, one half of a burglar couple on the run, with an old-fashioned diner as his next target. “Pulp Fiction” also features

Harvey Keitel as Winston Wolf, an experienced criminal under Wallace who specializes in cleaning up crime scenes and making evidence disappear.

Each and every one of these performances pair well with Tarantino’s witty and quirky dialogue. Many of the character interactions feel so unique and genuine. There is a good reason why two hitmen discussing the regional differences of the McDonald’s menu in Europe as they drive to their next target is so iconic and referenced. One of the movie’s taglines is a quote from Mr. Wolf, being “Of course you are a character. It doesn’t mean you have character.” I think that quote is a perfect representation of this film.

I’ve always liked how Tarantino depicts 90’s L.A. between this film and “Reservoir Dogs”. The vintage diners, many back alleys and old apartments make for a unique take on the famous city and create a consistent world between movies. The soundtrack also enhances this feeling, with some notable inclusions being “You Never Can Tell” by Chuck Berry, “Surf Rider” by The Lively Ones, and Dick Dale’s “Miserlou.” Supported with amazing, consistent cinematography and a great variety of unique camera angles, it all comes together to make a movie masterpiece.

If you like the crime genre or enjoy Tarantino’s work and somehow haven’t seen this film, I thoroughly recommend it! The movie can be found on the streaming services Amazon Prime Video, Max, and Hulu with a subscription. You can also rent the movie on Youtube for \$3.99.

“Candlelight vigil” CONT.

“On campus, we have a free confidential victim’s advocate,” Mingori said. “This is a resource that can be used by students, staff, faculty and community members who have experienced any form of interpersonal violence like stalking, domestic violence, intimate partner violence and sexual violence or are looking for ways to better support a loved one who has experienced these things.”

During the presentation, Mingori described that the question, “Why don’t they just leave?” is “one of the most harmful phrases” said to somebody who is in a domestic violence situation. Mingori educated the group that one of the most dangerous times for a person experiencing domestic violence is when they leave the relationship.

“On average, two victims do try to leave,” Mingori said during the presentation. “They try to leave about seven times before they finally end up leaving that relationship.”

Divorce lawyer Charles Ullman’s website states that one in five college students say that they have been “abused by an intimate partner.”

Psychology senior Tyler Chicks went to the event because he’s had friends who’ve dealt with domestic abuse. He came as an ally in support of those friends.

“I just wanted to help bring awareness because it is definitely prevalent on college campuses,” Chicks said.

The Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence explains that in order to be a better ally, you have to “start the conversation” by understanding domestic violence,

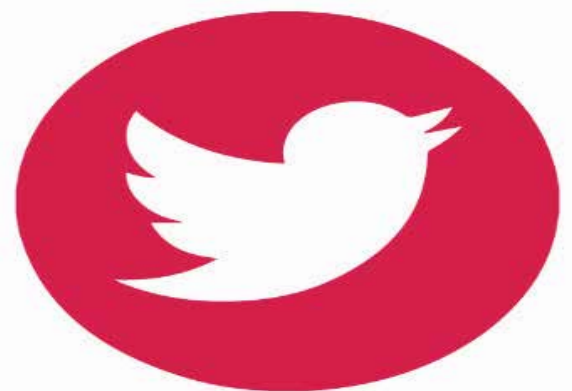
its impact and what to say when helping a victim.

General studies freshman Sam Lennon believes he would get involved in trying to help a domestic violence victim as much as he could.

“I would let them know that they have options and that there are sources out there that could help them,” Lennon said.

If you or someone you know is looking for resources about domestic violence, you can contact the Title IX office, speak to the Personal Counseling Center or call WISE at (231) 796-6600. For more information on what resources you can get at Ferris, visit AVA’s Instagram @fsuantiviolence.

Follow us on Twitter!



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Opinions

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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

Chilling free speech

In support of the ACLU's open letter



Photo: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Students rally outside of the David L. Eisler Center with homemade signs, spreading awareness for the Israel-Hamas war.

Jessica Oakes Editor-In-Chief

One of my greatest frustrations with Ferris these past four years has been the overall neutrality of our campus culture.

I thought that entering college during an election year, a pandemic with unprecedented government oversight and mere months after the peak of the Black Lives Matter movement would embolden my peers to speak and organize.

As a freshman, I was disappointed to see that only one of the major political parties even had a functioning chapter at this school. The political narrative of college students in Big Rapids seemed equally one-sided and lackluster.

Academic campuses have historically served as the frontlines of political activism. They are full of people from different areas of the state, country and world who have all come together in the name of

learning more and building a better future for ourselves.

This month, the American Civil Liberties Union released an open letter to colleges and university leaders to reject the efforts of stifling and "chilling free speech." Unsurprisingly, the letter was inspired by news from the state that I call home six months out of the year: Ron DeSantis' Florida.

Chancellor Ray Rodrigues from the other FSU, Florida State University, worked "in consultation with Governor DeSantis" to deactivate Florida chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine on public campuses.

The letter explains that this effort not only wrongfully accuses students of offering material support for terrorism, but also infringes upon their First Amendment right of free speech.

I do not find it to be dramatic to remind the public of the damages of the McCarthy era, as the ACLU's

letter does. If we enforce one-sided discourse for any global issue, we encourage confirmation bias and historical ignorance.

Every college student spends enough time in the echo chamber of social media. Our academic institutions should not sound like them as well.

While it is a thousand miles away, there is plenty we can learn from Florida. DeSantis wants the image of a state that loves and embraces freedom. He then curtails the freedoms of students, the LGBTQ+ community, minorities and women.

One of the great joys of my college experience has been watching our student engagement grow on topics including reproductive rights and the war in Gaza. I credit this in large part to the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, an organization I'm proud to participate in, and the important education and wisdom found in our

history classes.

This school loves to quote founder Woodbridge N. Ferris when he said "I am a radical advocate for the larger freedom of the women" or "don't use [your knowledge] in oppressing others." He dreamed of education for "all people in our states."

If this is the philosophy that our school is built upon, I often wonder when and how it was collectively forgotten in areas aside from potential new student tours.

I encourage students to use their rights and privileges on a college campus to speak for those who do not share those rights and privileges. If you do not feel like you've paid enough attention to current events, big or small, to join a collective conversation, I have to honestly ask what the point of all this education and exposure is to you.

Signs to come

New signs point to a shift in priorities



Photo by: Sam Mulder | Photographer

Sam Mulder
Torch Photographer

The exorbitant price of the new signs on the FLITE Library has come to light and it's important Ferris students talk about it. I believe these signs are redundant and against the student body's actual interests.

The new signage is part of a wayfinding project with a hefty budget of 1.5 million dollars to make it easier for students to navigate campus. The project includes improvements in vehicle navigation signage, parking lot identification systems, larger building identification signs and street signage, according to the Ferris State Board of Trustees meeting minutes from Feb. 18, 2022.

However, I see no way these new signs on FLITE help students navigate any better than before. The westernmost corner of the FLITE building, where the signs are located, already stands taller than any of the surrounding buildings. The signs face at an angle away from the majority of the cam-

pus, so I see little evidence that they are for the benefit of those traversing campus grounds.

The signs are also placed directly above an existing sign with the university's seal, which I believe better represents Ferris as an academic institution.

Adding the new signs in this location is a redundant defacement of the FLITE building which should be a symbol of higher learning.

This leads me to think that those in charge of this project don't have current students in mind, but rather prospective students and visitors. The university's most recent master plan states that the goals are to "improve branding" at places such as entry points and the edges of campus.

This alludes that their goal of increasing enrollment not by improving the university for the student body, but instead by focusing on making the university more attractive.

"The giant Brutus will be illuminated at night, serving as a beacon of inspiration and joy," was the explanation used in almost

every caption across multiple of Ferris' social media posts regarding the sign. The sign will likely have a different effect.

Who is it supposed to serve as a beacon to when the majority of residence halls, classrooms and therefore students sit behind it? I believe that the sign will serve as a reminder that the school cares less about its student body than it does about enrollment numbers and boasting its image.

In my opinion, this is a stark reminder of the ways the higher education system in the United States is flawed.

The high demands for degrees have driven schools to focus less on the quality of their programs and education. Schools are willing to spend 1.5 million dollars on signs when there are much more pressing issues on campus.

It seems as though today schools find more of their identity aligned with sports, status, and branding. Schools have become a product, and products need advertising. I don't blame Ferris for the cultural and economic

A light-up Brutus the Bulldog looks over the main campus entrance.

Hockey has a culture problem

Dissecting the multi-league issue

Dylan Rider
Sports Editor

On Saturday, Nov. 11, Tech Hockey Guide published an article bringing light to allegations made against Michigan Tech head coach Joe Shawhan.

Patrick Marcinkevics, a player for the Huskies who, according to the article, is "taking a break from the team" shared on his Instagram page an alleged conversation between Marcinkevics and Shawhan. In the recording, Shawhan and Marcinkevics can allegedly be heard arguing. Marcinkevics interrupted Shawhan, leading the coach to say "Do you want me to f*cking answer or knock your teeth out. What do you want? You tell me right now."

The allegations made against Shawhan are just the latest issues within hockey and it's culture to be opened up. This culture issue within hockey isn't isolated. Michigan Tech isn't even the only CCHA team, the conference in which Ferris plays in, to undergo a scandal this year. Bowling Green had their coach Ty Eigner and three players suspended in relation to a hazing incident. This begs the question of when hockey players, coaches and fans will take a long, hard look into the mirror when examining this wildly toxic culture throughout the game they love.

Sticking with the topic of collegiate hockey, the toxic culture is even shown in women's ice hock-

ey. Earlier this year, the Boston Globe and the Athletic published articles detailing the hazing and toxic culture within Katey Stone's Harvard women's hockey program. The Athletic article details hazing, racism, a fining system and a general neglect of mental health. One anonymous player went as far to say that "the whole team was centered around shame."

This is a clear cut issue through all levels of the game. Most impactfully, the lower levels of hockey. A 2021 study done by the Angus Reid Institute found that "a majority of those closest to the game- be they players, coaches, or friends and family members of participants- say hockey at the amateur and recreational level has culture problems."

The study looked at racism and misogyny in hockey. Majority found that those who were polled believed there to be a problem of racism and misogyny within the sport. The severity of the identified problems varied.

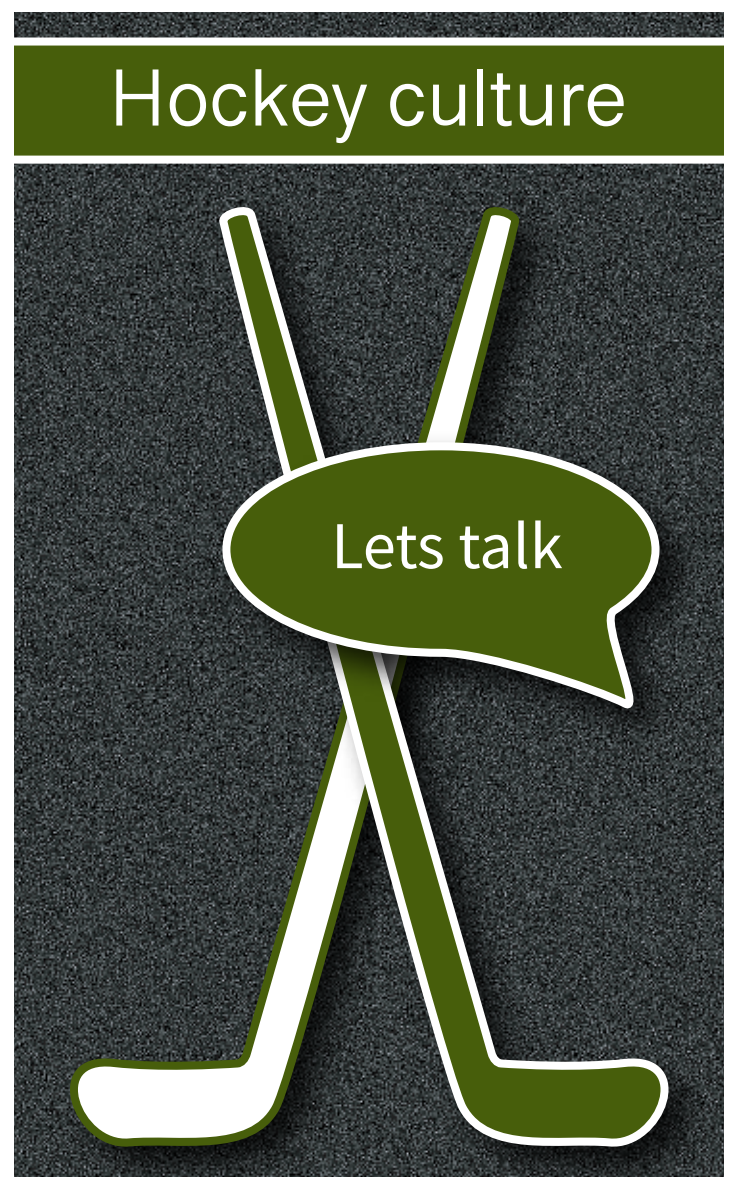
Bill Peters, a former NHL coach who resigned following allegations of racism, returned to the hockey world when it was announced that he would coach the Lethbridge Hurricanes of the WHL. In the announcement, the team stressed that Peter's had gone through "anti-racism training and coaching certificate program."

The hiring signifies that Peters, a disgraced coach who was accused of racism, will be coaching

young men in a junior league. This shows that the WHL is okay with recycling a coach accused of referring a player as the N-word just because he completed anti-racism training and had to get a coaching certificate. This just isn't enough. At the lower levels of hockey, college and the junior leagues, we trust the coach's to not only lead the players on the ice, but off. Coaches are supposed to be a monumental figure in players' lives who teach life lessons. It doesn't sit right that Peters and other coaches could get a chance to do so again.

This culture issue doesn't start and end with those in the sport. It's reach is outside as well. Last week's edition of the Torch included a piece of mine which discussed the tragic death of Adam Johnson, a player who had his throat cut in a freak accident. Within the piece, I mentioned how certain conversations around Johnson's death turned malicious as some created a racial issue from it. Matthew Petgrave, the Black player whose blade hit Johnson, received racist posts which directed racial slurs at him while accusing him of murder.

From top to bottom, it's clear to me that hockey has a vicious and non-inclusive culture issue. To those who coach, play and love the sport: it's in our hands, and only our hands, to fix the culture of the sport we love so dearly.



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

Sports

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Got the horns

Bulldogs swept by Minnesota State Mavericks



Photo credits: Levi Waling | Torch Photographer

Senior Logan Stein blocking a shot on the goal from the Mavericks.

Jack Alcorn
Sports Reporter

Ferris State Hockey lost both home matchups against the Minnesota State Mavericks on Friday, Nov. 11 and Saturday, Nov. 12.

The Bulldogs (3-6-1, 1-3 in CCHA) were 3-19 in the past five years heading into the series

against the Mavericks (4-3-1, 2-0 in CCHA). Minnesota State continued their dominance beating Ferris 6-2 on Friday and then winning 3-2 on a last-second shot in overtime on Saturday.

Freshman defenseman Jack Mesic talked about what Ferris needs to do to turn it around heading into the thick of confer-

ence play.

"We need to just keep working on our system and keep our energy high," Mesic said. "We need to keep our heads up high and just be ready right when we get up for whoever we play."

In the first game of the series, the Bulldogs got off to a slow start which gave a big lead to the Mavericks. Minnesota State scored first four minutes in the game. The goal was followed by two more first period tallies from the Mavericks. The Bulldogs cut the deficit to 3-1 courtesy of sophomore forward Tyler Schleppe. Minnesota State capitalized again, scoring two quick goals of the three scored in the second. Ferris pulled junior goaltender Noah Giesbrecht after 23 minutes of play and brought in senior goaltender Logan Stein.

The Suwanee, GA. native stopped 13 of the 14 shots he faced in the remainder of the game. The Bulldogs got one back with a third period goal from freshman forward Emerson Goode. The Mavericks' big lead propelled them to a 6-2 win over the Bulldogs.

Despite the lopsided scoreline, head coach Bob Daniels thought there were positives to take from the Bulldogs play.

"I thought the guys competed

quite a bit harder than they did last weekend," Daniels said. "We blocked a lot of shots so that showed we were invested in the game. We let a couple in early, which had us chasing for the rest of the game."

Following the blowout loss, the Bulldogs put together a much closer game that went down to the final 10 seconds of overtime and ended with Minnesota celebrating a 3-2 victory.

After a scoreless first period, the Bulldogs pulled out in front thanks to a goal from Goode. Ferris was not able to hold the lead very long as Minnesota State equalized only 49 seconds after the goal from Goode. The Mavericks pulled away three minutes later with a goal. Ferris ended up tying late in the third with a goal from Nick Nardecchia.

Minnesota State started overtime with a power play that carried over from the third period. Stepan Pokorny was then whistled for a trip which gave the Mavericks a 5-to-3 advantage. Despite killing both penalties, the Mavericks scored the winning goal with 6.3 seconds remaining.

Daniels felt the penalties late in the game cost them the victory.

"We got the penalty at the end

of regulation and the one in overtime and those just bled into the remaining time," Daniels said. "I hate to hear that define the game because we played pretty darn well."

Highlighting play for the Bulldogs in the winless weekend was Goode. The rookie's two goals was his first two collegiate tallies.

"I am very fortunate to get the chances I get," Goode said. "I'm also very glad I was able to capitalize on those chances. It was just upsetting that we had some unfortunate penalties that cost us the win."

Minnesota State is the defending champion of the CCHA and had also ended Ferris' season last year by knocking them out of the CCHA playoffs in the semi-finals. Ferris was able to manage to split the regular season series with the Mavericks last season. The Bulldogs are hoping to even the season series as well next time they play.

The Bulldogs will be on the road next week to continue their in-conference play, as they take on the Michigan Tech Huskies on Friday, Nov. 17 and Saturday, Nov. 18.

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Taking the W from Warriors

Bulldogs end regular season with win over Wayne State



Photo credits: Jack Starkey | Freelance Photographer

Junior wide receiver Tyrese Hunt-Thompson runs the ball.

Jael Snowden
Sports Reporter

In their regular season finale, Ferris State football rocked the Wayne State Warriors on Saturday, Nov. 11 at Top Taggart Field.

The Bulldogs (8-2, 5-1 in GLIAC) defeated the Wayne State Warriors (3-8, 2-4 in GLIAC) with the final score of 63-19. The win helps put an exclamation point on another winning season while also helping punch their ticket to the DII football playoffs.

Following their loss to Grand Valley, their second loss on the season, the Bulldogs needed to win the rest of their games if they wanted a shot at making the playoffs. Head coach Tony Annese was happy with how the Bulldogs came out.

"I was definitely pleased that our offense came out and got started quickly," Annese said. "Our guys know you have to finish

the season."

Annese described the feeling of having to win out following the loss to the Lakers as "starting a second season," and that he was "nervous as heck."

To start the game, the Warriors scored first by nailing a 20-yard field goal. However the Bulldogs responded quickly with a 75-yard passing touchdown to junior wide-receiver Tyrese Hunt-Thompson to put the Bulldogs ahead.

Ferris' defense proceeded to not allow another score for the rest of the first quarter. After a long Wayne State drive stalled out, the Bulldogs once again scored, this time it was Gulker rushing in for a 12-yard touchdown.

The Bulldogs went on to score a four more touchdowns in the second half and only gave up 10 second half points en route to their 63-19 victory over the Warriors.

The Bulldogs stifling defense did not loosen up, only allowing one

touchdown throughout the entire contest. Despite only letting up 19 points, sophomore linebacker Brennan Schwarz agreed with Annese that the defense did not play with a "good energy."

"We played a little bit sluggish," Schwarz said. "[We] might've had some big plays back that shouldn't have crossed the line of scrimmage. But we got some turnovers and some young guys in there. So I think overall we did pretty well."

The offense started quickly and had a big day, scoring nine touchdowns and having a combined 611 total yards between the ground (258 rushing yards) and air (353 passing yards). Senior quarterback Mylik Mitchell and sophomore quarterback Carson Gulker combined for six touchdowns (four rushing, two passing) in the game.

The connection between Mitchell and Hunt-Thompson was a big factor in the blow-out win. Hunt-Thompson pulled down one

touchdown and went for 122 yards in the first half.

Hunt-Thompson believes the receiving core sits atop the Bulldog's position groups due to how anybody can succeed.

"To me it's a mindset thing," Hunt-Thompson said. "For the past two years, [our best position has] been our defensive line and I think as the receiving core, with the plays we make, makes us feel like we're the best group out there. Anyone can make a play and go for 100+ yards, even the people that don't start or necessarily get in."

Hunt-Thompson finished the season with 692 receiving yards and eight touchdowns through 10 games played.

With the regular season wrapped up, the Bulldogs turned their attention to selection Sunday to see if they made the playoffs. The Bulldogs will have a second date with their arch-rivals in Grand Valley to begin their playoff cam-

paign.

Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, they will be without Annese, as he has to serve his one-game suspension from last year's NCAA reprimand. Annese believes that the Bulldogs are ready for the game without him.

"We actually practiced it a couple weeks ago when American International was here," Annese said. "We have a pretty good sense of how we're gonna structure the situation. The guys know they don't need me to win or they don't need too much from coaches to win. They just gotta go out and do their thing."

The fifth-seeded Bulldogs will play the second-seeded and GLIAC champion Lakers at Lubbers Stadium in Allendale in a same-season revenge match on Nov. 18. Game-time is set for 1 p.m.

Football Scorecard

1Q

8:41
Wayne State field goal, 0 - 3

8:17
Tyrese Hunt-Thompson, 75 yd receiving TD from Mitchell, 7 - 3

1:25
Carson Gulker, 12 yd rushing TD, 14 - 3

2Q

12:11
Mylik Mitchell, 5 yd rushing TD, 21 - 3

9:33
Wayne State Field goal, 21 - 6

6:03
Xavier Wade, 10 yd receiving TD from Gulker, 28 - 6

0:03
Wayne State Field goal, 28 - 9

3Q

13:07
Carson Gulker, 30 yd rushing TD, 35 - 9

10:09
Mylik Mitchell, 3 yd rushing TD, 42 - 9

6:47
Markel King, 14 yd rushing TD, 49 - 9

4Q

13:48
Trinidad Chambliss, 3 yd rushing TD, 56 - 9

11:28
Wayne State rushing TD, 56 - 16

7:38
James Coby, 16 yd rushing TD 63 - 16

0:03
Wayne State field goal, 63 - 19

Bulldog volleyball looks to postseason

Bulldogs lose to Huskies, beat Wildcats in weekend finale



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Setter Kaylee Maat and middle hitter Chelsie Freeman block an oncoming spike from the Michigan Tech Huskies.

Jeffery Walker
Sports Reporter

In their final regular season weekend, Bulldog volleyball ended the campaign with a loss to the Michigan Tech Huskies before getting a win over the Northern Michigan Wildcats, creating momentum to carry over into the postseason.

The Bulldogs now sit at 22-7 (15-3 in conference play) following the 3-2 loss to Michigan Tech (14-15 overall, 10-8 in conference) and the 3-0 sweep over Northern Michigan (12-17 overall, 9-9 in conference).

To start the weekend, the Bulldogs suffered a devastating loss to Michigan Tech. Ferris seemed to be on their way to winning versus the Huskies as they won both first-half sets (25-15) and (25-23). After the break, the Huskies rallied to defeat the Bulldogs in five sets.

Head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm credited the Huskies while acknowledging the difficulty of the loss.

"It sure was a tough loss, I thought Michigan Tech played really well," Brandel-Wilhelm said. "They're a good team, very much improved over the last six weeks for sure. I thought that they made some changes, and we didn't adapt to those changes."

After the tough loss, the Bulldogs had to turnaround and face the Wildcats, hoping to end the regular season on a good note and gain some momentum heading into the postseason.

The team did just that against Northern Michigan, as they dominated the Wildcats in the first set (25-12) and in the second set (25-16). After the break, the Bulldogs did not want a repeat of the night before and dominated the third set (25-11) to finish the game.

Brandel-Wilhelm thought the team was more focused, worked hard to execute and thought her team responded well coming off the disappointing loss the night

before.

"I thought we were really focused, we did a nice job of working hard to execute the game plan," Brandel-Wilhelm said. "It's tough to come off a disappointment like last night and I thought that we did we made a couple little changes, but the biggest thing was just in the way the players played and the way they approached the game."

The Bulldogs had some strong performances in this weekend's series to finish out the regular season.

Junior middle-hitter Olivia Henneman-Dallape had a combined 39 kills over the two games as she surpassed 1,000 career kills, Junior outside hitter Claire Nowicki had a combined 20 kills, Junior setter Kaylee Maat combined for 74 assists and Junior libero Leah Bylut combined for 24 digs.

Now the Bulldogs have to get prepared for the postseason now that the regular season has come to an end, they look to have a lot of success in the postseason.

Senior libero Kenzy Corstange talks about the preparation the team has to do and what it's going to be like playing in the GLIAC tournament.

"It's a quick turnaround [since] we play on Wednesday, so we have a few days to get prepared," Corstange said. "We're going to have to watch a lot of film, and this will be the third time that we play whatever team we're playing so just mentally and physically preparing recovering our bodies. Everyone will be fighting both sides of the court no one's going to give up because you lose you go home."

The Bulldogs earned the second seed in the GLIAC tournament and will face the seventh seeded Purdue Northwest Pride on Wednesday, Nov. 15 with game time set for 5 p.m.

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Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Libero Kenzy Corstange prepares for an incoming play.