



Resume revising

AMA hosts a resume workshop ahead of career fair



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Isabelle Marks
News Reporter

In preparation for the career fair, Ferris students were allowed to ask questions about their resumes on Sept. 19.

This event, hosted by the American Marketing Association, featured a guest speaker, and faculty who reviewed and edited resumes. Career advice was given, as well as ways you can network.

Vice President of Professional Development for Ferris AMA Madelyn Oly, a senior majoring in business administration with a minor in sales, organized the event.

Oly gave background on the event and the significance the date of the event holds as the career fairs are happening next week.

"This event is a resume workshop, and we created it this week to give students the opportunity to enhance

their resumes before the career fair next week," Oly said. "It's incredibly important for all students to get involved, and it offers a great chance to engage with faculty and professors."

Oly also stressed the importance of having a solid resume for all majors.

"Resumes are important for everyone, whether you're a marketing major or studying business administration with a minor in Sales like me," Oly said. "Everyone needs a resume; it's how you market yourself. This workshop is essential for ensuring everyone can participate."

The Ferris AMA partnered with the College of Business to put on the resume workshop.

"We partnered with the College of Business for this event in hopes of attracting a larger turnout, and we were happy to see a great number of attendees. It's a good way

for everyone to get involved," Oly said.

Marketing senior and President of the Ferris AMA Ivabelle Wilhelm shared her thoughts on the importance of such events.

"Professional development events outside the classroom are crucial because they are more engaging and fun," Wilhelm said. "Additionally, they provide a chance to interact with real professionals. While many of our teachers have industry experience, business is always evolving, so it's beneficial to hear from those currently in the field and to build real-world connections."

Wilhelm has found that going to the event multiple times can be helpful.

"This is my third time attending this workshop, and each time I refine my resume," Wilhelm said. "The biggest takeaway for me this time was realizing my resume lacks quantifiable achieve-

ments. I need to rewrite that section to better demonstrate my capabilities to potential employers."

District Marketing Manager for Federated Insurance and guest speaker Lance Eltringham spoke about why attending professional events such as the resume workshop is important for students.

"Having business professionals speak directly to students about market trends provides valuable insights into what employers are seeking," Eltringham said. "This allows students to tailor their resumes and interview responses to align with current expectations."

Connection is a big part of what Eltringham believes is helpful when searching for a job.

"Network as much as possible. Let people know you're looking for a job—professors, career services, friends and family," Eltringham said. "Talk

to as many individuals as you can about your career goals; your network will assist you in finding opportunities."

He also emphasized the importance of maintaining an up-to-date resume, stating that having an organized resume can help increase the chances of being hired.

The workshop also featured valuable advice on how to approach employers at the upcoming career fair, as well as how to market yourself. Eltringham emphasized the importance of attending the career fair.

"I highly advocate for attending career fairs," Eltringham said. "They allow you to network with businesses that you might not initially consider. Bring multiple copies of your resume, engage with as many employers as possible, exchange business cards and send follow-up emails to thank them for their time. This will help you stand out

from other candidates."

There are more upcoming professional events if you cannot make it to the resume workshop.

"The American Marketing Association collaborates monthly with four other registered student organizations in the College of Business to host major events. For instance, next month we have Luke Wyckoff, one of the most successful entrepreneurs we've had as Ferris alumni, who has started several companies," Wilhelm said. "He will discuss personal branding and how to effectively use LinkedIn to connect with alumni and expand our networks. I know a fellow student who used this advice to secure her job and real estate license."

The career fair will be held Sept. 26 at the Recreation Center, for a full list of employers who will be attending, visit Ferris360.



News

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

Student employee partnership ending

Partnership with Hope Network comes to an end



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

The Rock Cafe has been impacted with staffing shortages due to the program closing.

Isabelle Marks
News Reporter

In a letter to Ferris, Executive Director Deborah Mock said that the Paris location would be closed due to an increase in the cost of services and utilities.

Hope Network Developmental Community Services has ended its partnership with Ferris, due to the program shutting down. This program partnered with the Rock and the Quad Café to provide work to students who needed more help and supervision. Hope Network had to end the partnership with Ferris because they shut down their location near Ferris in Paris, Mich.

“Hope Network’s six decades of service, and its absolute commitment to the persons we serve, leads us to a vision of advocacy on their behalf,” Hope Network said on their website. “We will use our voice to speak for those whose voices are muted by injustice, disability and by fear. We will stand with those we serve, honored by their trust to represent their cause, knowing that justice for them is justice for us all.”

Hope Network is based out of Grand Rapids and has 125+ locations across Michigan.

“Hope Network has made the difficult decision to cease community-based services at our Paris Center, located at 21645 Northland Dr, Paris MI. We continue to experience an increase in the cost of providing services related

to supplies, vehicle fuel, utilities and employee wages that have exceeded the revenue we receive to cover the services we provide,” Mock wrote.

This letter was written on June 26, 2024. The last day of the partnership was Aug. 25, 2024.

“Our goal is to partner with you to ensure that the people served can transition services to another provider,” Mock wrote.

Digital animation and game design senior Tenna Smith gave insight into how programs like Hope Network are essential.

“The Rock did hire a couple of people who were part of that organization,” Smith said. “They hired the ones who were more independent, but the rest of them can’t work there anymore because they need more support and supervision. The organization had adults who would supervise and help them out.”

Smith gave a personal testament to the power of programs like Hope Network. Her twin brother, who is diagnosed with autism, was part of a program that helped him get a job, as he wanted to work.

“Many of those individuals enjoyed working at The Rock; I worked with them, and they always seemed happy and fulfilled. It’s just sad that they can’t do it anymore,” Smith said.

Ferris had been partnered with Hope Network since July 1, 2022, and the term was set to end June 30, 2025.

ON THE RECORD

Domestic at Robin Court

Sept. 16, 10:54 p.m. - Officers were called to Robin Court for a domestic between a couple who shared custody of a child. The male was arrested.

We good bro? Yeah, we good

Sept. 17, Unknown Time - Two roommates were threatening to get into a fight at North Hall. They decided that they felt safe enough to continue to live together, and the case was sent to judicial referral.

Shout off

Sept. 17, 10:25 p.m. - Two males could be heard yelling in Robin Court. When the officers arrived, they found it to be a verbal argument. The case was sent to judicial referral.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Criminal justice program turns 50

Members of the program reflect on it's impact

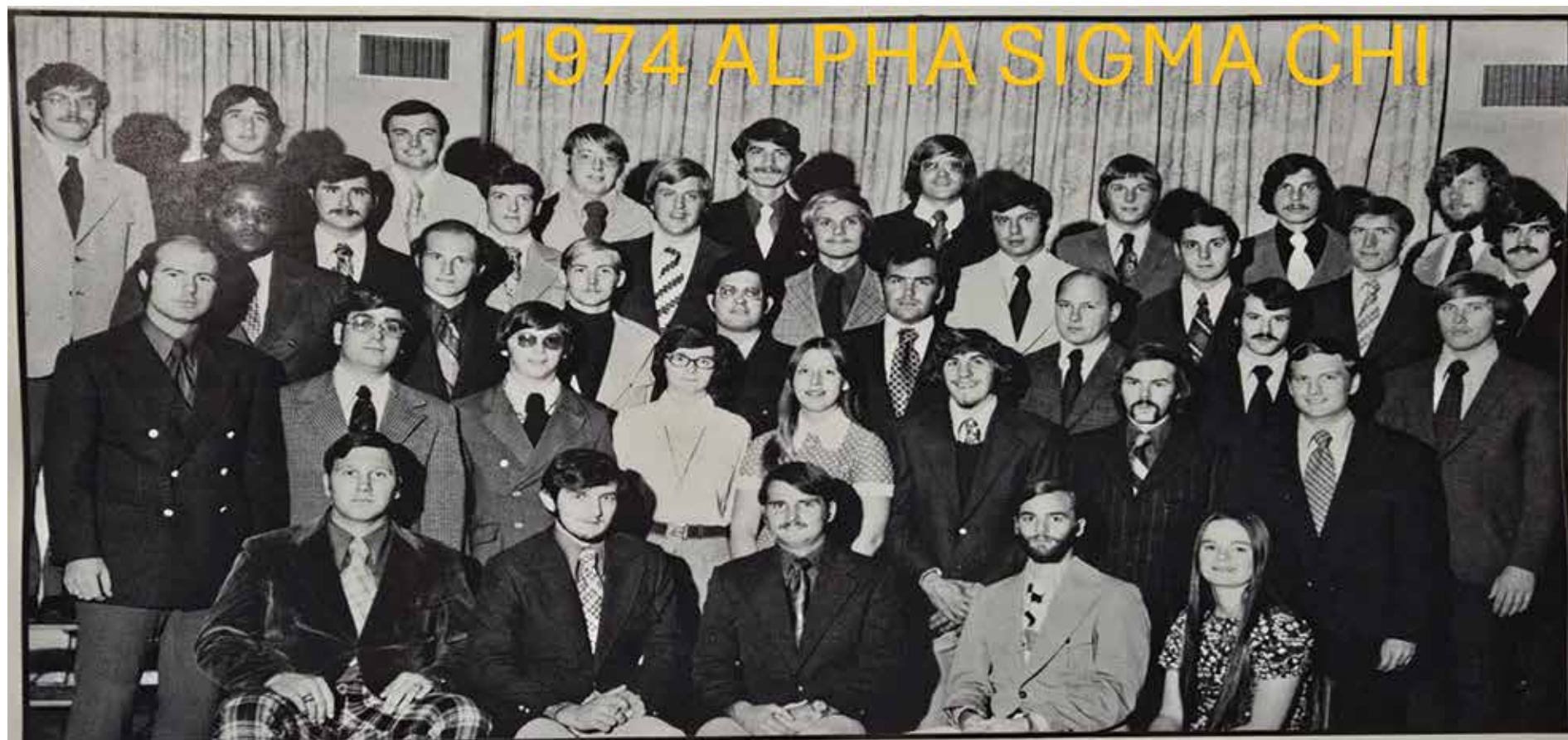


Photo courtesy of Ferris Archives

The criminal justice program's first graduating class of 1974.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

The criminal justice program celebrated 50 years since their first class graduated with memories, campus tours, and food on Saturday.

The program had 53 students in its first graduating class from 1974 and has graduated around 8,000 students over the last 50 years. Of those 53, 10 attended the celebration, alongside alumni from other graduating criminal justice classes.

Dr. Terry Nerbonne was one of the founders of Ferris's Criminal Justice Program. He had some concerns when the program was first taking off.

"I talked to the first class, and that was kind of strange and you'll find out later, but we had a real progressive program here," Nerbonne said. "The state was not used to this, and we wondered will they get jobs because they came from a university and then go through a police academy, and it's the students truly the students have made this program. They're the one out got the jobs worked in the field, and they did such a good job that we have recruiters come in here all the time to hire students."

He then expressed that students have gotten jobs in places such as Texas, Florida, etc. As a result of their time at Ferris.

Nerbonne briefly spoke on how the classes have been getting smaller, and what he believes could be attributed to it.

"We have to turn away students, except lately here there's not too many people going to be police officers, and it's hard to harder and harder to get people to come in the program now starting to improve again, and I think with Covid," Nerbonne said. "But it was a great program, and we put a lot of work into it. We're known all over the United States. We're known out of the United States. We have students scattered all over the United States, Sheriff departments, corrections departments, probation, parole, and I say we haven't had any trouble getting jobs for these kids, because it's well-known what kind of program we have."

Many of the graduates gave recognition to Dr. Bob Parsons, who helped start the program, and has since passed away. Candy St. Denis recalled Parsons' support of women being in the field.

"He supported women without realizing that to prepare to go out and work in an area where women were not at especially in law enforcement, [cause] who wants their husband to work with a woman in a patrol car by themselves," St. Denis said. "I was all prepared. I got hired in at the Losco County Sheriff's Department and enjoyed that many other things in the last 50 years."

When the program was initially started, Ferris was a transfer school. Alumnus Bob Walker met Alumnus Lance Weber through Delta college, and both attended Ferris.

"I originally from the Western UP, so I came 500 miles down to Paris after going to Delta College, and Lance and I had a room together at Delta for a year, and there weren't very many universities to go to in the criminal justice program," Walker said. "So, it was either I was looking at a place in Wisconsin, but then I decided to come down to Paris, which was absolutely a wonderful move, career move for me, and you know, there was a lot of unknowns for us in the law enforcement field, as Dr. Irving said today."

Walker also expressed his gratitude to Parsons, and shared that the original graduating class had the opportunity to see Parsons' family receive a crystal plaque for his contribution to the program.

President Dr. Bill Pink closed the celebration with the hope that all the alumni would be back for the homecoming game.

"When you have an opportunity to talk to our students who are in the grind right now on campus right now, when you have the chance just say hi to them and tell them your story, speak into our students today because you because of what you have done from this place forward will speak to their lives in a powerful way," Pink said. "Those moments you spend with them, though, will be powerful to them and will speak to their lives as you speak into their lives. You will have an impact like none other. So, thank you for what you mean to this university."



Photo courtesy of Hannah Crouch

Criminal Justice alumni Jerry Antoon speaks during the panel.

We the People

2024 Constitution Day Celebration and lecture

Kate Babel
News Reporter

In reflection and celebration for Constitution Day, students gathered in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center to listen to a lecture focused on the role of the Constitution.

The celebration and lecture had 15 people in attendance and went from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The celebration was about looking back to the Constitution and reflecting on the document itself. It contained article sections highlighting judicial power, executive and legislative. The lecture mainly focused on the judicial portion and how it related to the Supreme Court.

The coordinator for the Political Engagement Project and the Political Science department Professor David Takitaki gave the lecture.

"In our role as faculty and my role as the political engagement coordinator, we need to inform people so that they can understand," Takitaki said. "And at the end of the day, it's not important to me how a student chooses to respond to the information about these big, big issues."

While the United States is nearing the presidential election, it is important for citizens as individuals to be informed and have the right to be informed about the Constitution and what a presidential candidate must do in order to uphold these Constitutional rights and laws.

The lecture didn't focus on

the candidates themselves, but rather on the Supreme Court, how they relate to the Constitution and how recent events such as Roe v. Wade and the events with President Trump have challenged what judiciary power the Supreme Court has.

Digital animation and game design sophomore Christine Leverenz attended the lecture.

"When I first came here I wasn't really expecting to be interested in it, but like when they started talking about Trump and like how he just got away with stuff, I was kind of shocked because I didn't know that," Leverenz said. "I mean, I feel like people are so misinformed nowadays about, like what the president can do and like stuff like that"

Leverenz was referring to the part of the lecture where Takitaki discussed the difference between civil immunity and criminal immunity and used the recent trials with former President Trump as an example because it involves the judicial system, the decisions of the Supreme Court and how those decisions affect our government and the system.

Social studies education senior Noah Spinale found the event to be important.

"I think it's a lecture that most college students should go and experience, just because it's a good way to just get informed about what's going on right now," Spinale said. "Even if, like you're not

that much involved in politics or what's going on, it gives you a good understanding."

Takitaki emphasized the importance of understanding judicial decisions and their broader impacts on constitutional rights during the lecture. This celebration is an example of staying informed on politics and how our Constitution is structured.

"It is important for the population broadly to have access to high-quality information, and then use that information to hold leaders accountable," Takitaki said. "As citizens, as individuals. We need to know what's going on, and we need to do our jobs in holding politicians accountable, and that can mean asking the hard questions."

The Political Engagement Project is geared towards educating students about civic and political issues, it helps students by equipping them along with the community, with the skills needed to participate in political and civic life effectively and its goal is to encourage Ferris student participation.

"Citizens are the most powerful voters, with the most powerful role in America," Takitaki said "And you're talking about someone who is going to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, on this simultaneous Constitution Day and voter registration day, I think that needs to be us."



Photo by: Kate Babel | News Reporter
David Takitaki presents on political engagement to students.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Michigan- The first case of West Nile Virus of the year in Michigan was detected in Livingston County.

The case was found to not be contracted in Michigan, however the virus was detected in samplings of mosquitoes in Macomb County, according to CBS News.

According to MLive, there was also a case in Burton, Mi. Ken Howe was found to have the virus several weeks ago. His wife Karen has seen how the virus has impacted him.

"He found Ken sitting on the sofa, chewing on ink pens and just covered with ink," Karen said. "He was very altered, very confused, and at the doctor's office and the hospital, combative."

The symptoms for the virus can vary, but those over 50 years and under 15 years can be impacted more from it.

Symptoms from the virus include

headaches, vomiting, fever, body aches, rash or diarrhea according to the Center for Disease Control. There is also no vaccine for the so it is recommend that preventative measures are taken to lower the risk of getting the virus.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services recommends that individuals where insect repellent, make sure that windows and doors that are open have screens to prevent mosquitoes from getting in and to also empty things that pool water, as those make good breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Australia- Supermarkets in Australia are being sued after their claim for their prices being lower were allegedly found to be false.

The supermarkets were Coles and Woolworth who allegedly raised prices temporarily before lowering them to be the same or higher than the original according to BBC News.

The allegations came from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission estimated that the stores had sold millions of products this way, ranging from pet food to cheese.

ACCC chair Gina Cass-Gottlieb spoke of the concerns with these claims.

"Many consumers rely on discounts to help their grocery budgets stretch further, particularly

during this time of cost of living pressures," Cass-Gottlieb said. "It is critical that Australian consumers are able to rely on the accuracy of pricing and discount claims."

The ACCC is hoping that the Federal Court of Australia will have the companies increase their charity meal deliveries as well as face penalties.



Culture

Blase Gapinski | Culture Editor | gapinsb@ferris.edu

Big Rapids bar culture

The best places in town to share a pint



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

The Sawmill Saloon is a bar with unique amenities, such as outside games, karaoke and tarot card reading.

Blase Gapinski
Culture Editor

The heart of Big Rapids offers many bars and restaurants with unique atmospheres and vibes that cater to a distinct crowd, making them the perfect spots for students to unwind and connect.

Gypsy Nickel Lounge

The Gypsy Nickel Lounge is a staple point when looking for a place to host more personal gatherings. Upon entering, it almost feels like a classy jazz lounge. The environment is very welcoming to everyone and still has an elegant feel. The dim lighting and beautiful outdoor seating gives it a soothing energy that can't be beaten. Gypsy Nickel Lounge checks off the boxes of a high-quality bar and restaurant with a full food menu that won't let you down, and a large drink menu that offers daily specials. They provide weekly karaoke nights, which make for an even better time.

Ferris Alumni Katie Dunkley recently passed her state

radiology licensing exam and celebrated with friends by attending karaoke night at the Gypsy Nickel Lounge. One of the reasons it is in her top three bars of Big Rapids is the location and welcoming environment.

"My friends and I go here when we just want to hang out and have a more intimate gathering instead of going to a bigger bar," Dunkley said. "It was just really nice to all hangout and talk about my accomplishment and celebrate with a smaller gathering in a friendly atmosphere."

Sawmill Saloon

The Sawmill Saloon is the perfect place for friends to get together anytime, as they are open 365 days of the year. It is a historical location, as well as the main section of the bar, where it is a part of the original Jones and Green Sawmill and Lumber Company that once operated in the same place. One of the reasons the Sawmill Saloon is a great meet-up location for college students is the large assortment of drinks, food and various forms of

entertainment. Inside, they offer open mic nights, musical bingo and even tarot card readings three nights a week. The uniqueness of being able to sit with friends and have your fortunes read in the back of a bar is a surreal and mystical experience.

There is an outdoor area with a large deck and back patio section where it feels like being in the backyard for a cookout or barbecue. Here they have cornhole boards, pool tables and disc golf baskets. The demographic is very mixed as there are lots of current students who frequent the bar, and alumni that choose this place to come back to as well for the more relaxed environment. The different atmospheres between the traditional dive bar on the inside and the backyard summer night vibes that are offered outside make it worth the visit.

Schuberg's Bar & Grill

One of the most iconic and popular restaurants and bars in Big Rapids is Schuberg's. There is a sense of community that fills the air upon

entering, as it's another spot where you walk in, and the feelings of nostalgia are heavy. The location was formerly a jail and was also a speakeasy long before the prohibition. It is a historical point for the community, as the bar is nearly identical to when it first opened in 1933. This particular spot is perfect for families and students as they specialize in their famous burgers. When selecting what to eat, it's typically a challenge as there are 20 different burgers offered on their menu. It also has the perfect bar elements, such as rotating taps, which adds a nice variety to its beer selection. The vintage atmosphere is what makes the experience so unique. The small bar is always packed with community members and students, yet the service is still phenomenal.

Grace Stout is a server and bartender at Schuberg's and enjoys working with a large demographic of customers. One of her favorite pieces from the vintage decor that's on display is a prohibition-era poster which was

found under the floorboards while remodeling.

"This place holds so much energy, so many memories and that's part of the reason I love working here," Stout said. "The customers are amazing and you meet a lot of people from different walks of life as well as people who have been here in Big Rapids their whole life."

Star Shooters

When looking for the Big Rapids nightlife on the weekends, look no further than Star Shooters. The view upon entering Shooters is loud, lively and always full of action. It is a dive bar and club combined into one with tons of room for people to spread out. The demographic here is mainly students looking for a good time, as Shooter's is known for its electric energy and nonstop action. The music is always enjoyable enough to dance to and anyone looking to escape the crowd can sit outside on the front porch. It is truly considered the Big Rapids weekend oasis amongst college students.

To get students involved throughout the week, they offer two-dollar tacos on Tuesdays, along with a pool tournament. Thirsty Thursdays is another student favorite, as it also marks the weekly pong tournament. Each of these tournaments requires buy-in from a team as prizes are offered to first, second and third place.

Biological sciences senior Madison Loyd frequents Star Shooters whenever she isn't working her job or doing homework. One of the reasons she chooses Shooter's over other options is the community environment.

"There are two sides at this bar which is one of the reasons I love it," Loyd said. "There's the social side for those who want to hangout and talk with friends but it still has the electric atmosphere by the dance floor which is my favorite. It really is a place where students can let go of stress and enjoy themselves."

BAR STORY CONT. ON PG. 6



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Szots Bar and Grill is a local favorite in Big Rapids, due to its comfortable atmosphere and affordable menus.

BAR STORY CONT.

Szots Bar & Grill

Szots is a hidden gem in downtown Big Rapids. The exterior doesn't do justice to the warm and homey atmosphere this bar offers. It feels like a traditional pub that has a friendly and calming atmosphere. It is the perfect place to go after a long week of classes or work. They also stream Bulldog football games, which makes it a hotspot during away games. They offer excellent food for an affordable price while having a decent selection of beers on tap.

Graphic media management junior Riley Habermehl works at Szots and believes it's a great place for students and the community to get together and converse. He enjoys it when students come to Szots and start to mingle with the community, as that is how he started there.

"This is the kind of place where everyone walks in and knows each other's names," Habermehl said. "It has the type of laid back and nostalgic atmosphere where even if it's your first time in, you feel like you've already been here before."

As a college student, Habermehl believes the warm environment is what keeps the community and students coming back.

"It's not a place to come party like Shooters, but still a really good place to have a few beers, have some food, just chill out and talk to people," Habermehl said.

Each place has something special to offer the community and students. One thing they all have in common is they each have their own diverse culture. The next time you head out for drinks, why not explore something new and truly appreciate the experience?



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Star Shooters is the first stop for most college students who are eager to dance and meet others.

Media Minute

“Mixtape Pluto” keeps trap music fans well-fed

Connor Grypma
Sports Editor

Future dropped his third project of the year this past Friday, Sept. 20, with “Mixtape Pluto.”

After a relatively quiet 2023, Future has been producing high-quality and catchy tracks through out all of 2024 and does so with a classic trap mixtape, including 17 different songs. Following the release of his melodic album “We Still Don’t Trust You,” Future fans were pushing for more vintage trap music from him, prompting a classic release of hard-hitting beats and aggressive lyrics.

In front of the dark beats, Future uses his crisp rapping to speedwalk through the tracks in a typical fashion. Future still displays his versatility with slower, smoother songs sprinkled throughout the track list in songs like “Lost My Dog” or “Too Fast,” but other tracks like “Ski,” “Lil Demon” and “Teflon Don” quickly bring the energy back.

However, as for any project, it’s not perfect. There are a few moments throughout the 44-minute runtime where Future seems to stumble. This is incredibly apparent in the track “Plutoski,” where close to a minute of the track consists of him mumbling over

the beat with no sense of direction. Additionally, the tape seems to stall for a few tracks halfway through. Sometimes, the beats and style start to blend sounding like a run-on.

Regardless of the momentary flaws, it was refreshing to hear Future tap into his old style of rapping to give the fans a simple yet effective piece of work.

There were plenty of rumors about possible features from other big rap artists like Travis Scott, Playboi Carti and Gunna leading up to the mixtape’s release, but Future opted for a solo tape with no featured artists. This is Future’s first project without

a feature since his mixtape “Save Me” was released in 2019. The new mixtape gave production credits to big producers such as Wheezy, Southside, London on Da Track, FBG Goat, etc.

Despite his 41st birthday looming later this year, Future shows the fans that he can hang around with the new age of rappers and shows no signs of slowing down. His rapping ability and style versatility cannot be replicated.

Rating: 8/10



Photo courtesy of Wiki Commons

Marching along the details

Ferris goes through the rest of the plans

Ni’Jah Rankin
Freelance Reporter

The Ferris marching band is progressively getting all the planning and details for their comeback in the fall of 2025.

Dr. Bill Pink started a “Bulldog Caravan Tour” going across Michigan to spread the word about the marching band coming next fall, along with other updates on Ferris.

“Bulldog Caravan is helping folks understand that this time next year when you come to see campus, come to a football game or you may be on campus, there’s some event we have where we have either a drum line or the band itself,” Pink said.

As mentioned in the previous article on the upcoming marching band, there has been talk of scholarship opportunities for band students, but it was unconfirmed. Daniel Atwood, director of athletic bands, says there will be a scholarship opportunity, but details of the criteria and amount are still in the works.

“It looks like there will be scholarships offered, but we don’t know exactly how that’s going to work yet,” Atwood said. “We’re still working with the budget, as the university is going through a new budgeting process.”

Atwood has also been going to different high schools in Michigan to talk to band students about the Ferris marching band as a part of the recruitment process. He has been trying multiple ways to spread awareness to po-

tential incoming and current students about the marching band for recruitment, including tabling at events and working with high school band camps in the summer.

“I have a couple of visits for high schools this fall, for visiting and doing some work with the bands,” Atwood said. “Just last weekend, we had our first band day that we called a side-by-side, where we invited area high school students to come and join us.”

The recruitment efforts have been going on a positive route, seeing as Atwood has about 20 incoming students on the official recruitment list so far, with the rest of the school year to go. Most of the current pep band members will also be marching next fall, which has doubled in the past year. Atwood is hopeful that the number of members joining each year will steadily increase.

“We had about 30 students in the pep band last year and we are up to about 60 this year, so we brought in about 25 to 30 freshmen,” Atwood said. “If we do the same thing, we could be looking at starting next year with 80, 90 or possibly even 100 students.”

The Ferris marching band would also like to include a color guard and even the involvement of majorettes for a full field show.

Drumline students will be getting new equipment, and everyone will be getting new instruments. Current pep

band students are even getting the opportunity to be involved in the details and designs of the marching band. They will be able to give their input on the marching uniform designs.

Kyren Passenier is a sophomore in secondary education. He will be a part of the marching band next year, and he is glad he can be a part of the start of the Ferris marching band coming back and watching the process of it coming together. He thinks that the official start of the marching band performances will be something everyone will enjoy.

“I’m seeing it form right before my eyes and it’s crazy,” Passenier said. “I think it would be a shell shock in a way because we haven’t had a marching band in about 40 years.”

Joshua Smith is a sophomore biology education major and a part of the pep band. He was marching throughout high school and is glad the marching band is coming back to Ferris so he can participate. He thinks having a marching band is important to bring people together through music.

“I’m glad [Atwood] is bringing back a marching band, because I think every university deserves a marching band,” Smith said. “I feel like music is a great way to keep the crowd into the game.”



Photo by: Ni’Jah Rankin | Freelance Reporter

The marching band holds practices in the Music center auditorium.

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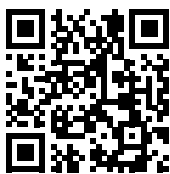
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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

What are you waiting for?

Fighting the feeling of life not being enough



Photo by: Dylan Rider | Editor in Chief

Torch editors Dylan Rider (closest), Caden Hofmann, Blase Gapinski and Connor Grypma enjoy a Detroit Tigers game

Dylan Rider Editor in Chief

Recently, I've found myself thinking about last summer and how it was supposed to be my "last hurrah" of freedom before slipping away into a career.

That "last hurrah" I had planned in my head didn't quite come to fruition. Not to say I didn't enjoy the experiences I had, but perhaps it just wasn't enough.

I spent last summer working 40 hours, if not more, on second shifts. Most of my friends, who I wanted to spend the summer with, ended up either working the morning shift or overnight.

These schedule conflicts ruled out those envisioned

nights of going out to any bar in a 20-mile radius, trips to Mount Pleasant or even just playing video games with each other. In retrospect, this makes me feel like I wasted time hoping for a grand finale.

With work and an internship sidelining me from having an amazing social life last year, I was really banking on the summer to have a lot more fun in-store. In reality, my expectations were set high and they didn't match reality.

That leads to now, where this thought of "what are you waiting for?" has emerged. As it stands, I have no excuses for not fully enjoying the school year ahead. I can't say I'm busy with work or I have

to be at my internship. At the end of the day, the reasons I couldn't enjoy my summer were just an excuse, no matter how valid. What a hard realization that is.

I've wasted too much time on an excuse not to do something. Now, I regret it. I'm happy to report that I've been actively out and about so far this year. A Tigers game, multiple stints at multiple bars and current plans to travel around.

However, that aforementioned feeling of it just not being enough still looms. Is all this going to be enough at the end of the day? After all, I've only a handful of months left until graduation. Then, it's over. No more school. No more college. The years of my

life that have granted me the most freedom and that have most transformed me as a person are over. That's not the greatest feeling.

Despite all the things I've experienced in my time at Ferris, I'm left questioning if it's enough. As I stare at the upcoming end of my college career, I'm terrified at the idea of coming out of it with nothing. I feel like I'm grasping at a thread that's continuously just slipping further and further away.

This brings me back to the question "What are you waiting for?" What am I waiting for? There's no time like the present and I'm attempting to make the most of what I have now. Regardless of that feeling of it being enough, if

I don't try to make it enough, what's the point? If you at all relate to these words, ask yourself the question: What are you waiting for?

To Ferris students and beyond, go out with your friends. Go to that party. Go to that bar. Get involved with something on campus. Simply put, you'll have no idea what you have until it's gone. I've already felt like I've wasted my previous years as a Bulldog, even if it's not truly the case. Avoid that feeling. Fill your day or life up with activity until you drop from exhaustion.

These times of our lives, ones that are cherished as the best of it, are fleeting. Go out and make the most of it before it's too late.

Getting into the string of things

Playing music as personal therapy

Nolan Matthews
Sports Reporter

Playing guitar has been a passion of mine for about six years, and as I came to Ferris State, I brought that passion with me.

I got into playing guitar thanks to my musical background in the orchestra at my high school. I went from playing the tall double bass to taking a guitar class in high school. I almost exclusively play guitar now, and I am delighted to have this hobby at this time in my life. Playing music helps me relax after a long or even stressful day of classes and coming home and playing my guitar helped me unwind and forget anything that happened during the day.

I learned throughout my time here that many students start to learn guitar when they get to college. Some learn guitar due to the old trope that playing guitar gets the ladies (which it does not), or some want a constructive and healthy hobby.

I spoke with Professor Daniel Cronk, who is in the music department here at Ferris State, and he spoke about when he got into guitar and how beneficial it is for your health.

"I started spending more time on the guitar and bass when I got to college. I started my first band when I was a sophomore, and we had many opportunities to play music for money," Cronk said. "But there is a great deal of research confirming the benefits of not playing guitar but music in general, from cogni-

tive development to coping with stress and anxiety, music has health benefits."

According to Breakthrough Guitar, playing the guitar can help with memory and concentration, lower stress, and increase your social life. All of these things are super important in college life. Finding something that you love that can help lower your stress and improve your cognitive functions is one of the best things you can do in college.

When advising anyone wanting to start playing guitar, I recommend getting a starter kit from Quinn's Music or online that usually runs you about \$200-300. The kits come with all of the necessities you need to get yourself started. Knowing the type of music that you want to play will determine what kind of guitar you should get. For the people who want to play the acoustic classics, get an acoustic guitar. If you're like me when you start and want to play all of the awesome classic rock riffs you heard in your dad's car growing up, get an electric guitar kit.

The brand of guitar should not matter to a beginner, one person I know got into guitar about the same time I did, and his starter guitar was worth about \$600. Fast-forward a few months later, and he was not playing guitar anymore. Do not buy an expensive guitar to start as a beginner, buy a cheap guitar or a starter kit and give yourself a couple of months to ensure you want to keep this hobby.

The last piece of advice I will give is that I am about 95% self-taught, I only took



Photo by: Nolan Matthews | Sports Reporter

Quinn's Music store in downtown Big Rapids offers lessons for many different musical instruments, including guitar.

one guitar class in high school, and since then, I have taught myself the rest of the way. Take guitar lessons. An experienced teacher will help you build good playing habits as well as help you not cre-

ate bad habits. I wish I had taken lessons when I started playing because now I have habits that I cannot break no matter how hard I try.

Even if you don't take "real" guitar lessons, learning

from videos and other free resources won't impact the positive effects that playing the guitar has on you.

To anyone who takes my advice or likes what they heard from Professor Cronk,

I hope you enjoy the guitar as much as I do. I wish you good luck and happy playing.

A snacking loss



Comic by: Blake Flanery | Cartoonist

Sports

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COACHES CORNER: Permmella Harris

New cheer and STUNT head coach gives insight to newest varsity sport



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Permmella Harris is the newly appointed STUNT head coach.



Photo courtesy of Hannah Crouch

Mauritza Cruz-Hartford performs while sideline cheering at Top Taggart.

Connor Grypma
Sports Editor

Permmella Harris was announced as the head coach of the new varsity cheer and STUNT program coming to Ferris in the fall 2025 semester.

Shortly after the announcement, Harris sat down with the Torch to give more insight into her life and further details on what STUNT will look like next year.

Q: We're here to talk about the new STUNT program, but I'm curious to know more about you. What was your life like growing up and how did you get into cheer and STUNT?

A: Well, I was born and raised in Detroit with four sisters. I started cheering in elementary school at St. Benedict and went through into high school where I did all four years of cheer. The sport has come a long way since then. I remember if you did a back handspring back then you were good. Anyway, I started coaching when I was 15, I went back to my elementary school to coach cheer, and the rest is history. I went on to coach for 15 years and at the same time I owned my cheer training facility. Eventually, I got a call to

coach over at Morgan State University which I did for a while, but then my husband had a big surgery so we decided to stay here in Michigan to recover. Before I knew it, this opportunity came along, and I was thrilled.

Q: What was your reaction to receiving the news that you would be the head coach of the new program?

A: It was amazing. I'm a very goal-oriented person and before I got the role, I had a note on my phone about becoming a head coach so I'm glad I got to check that off my list, and I'm very blessed and excited to be able to offer this sport at Ferris. It's going to change the whole dynamic of gameday and competitive play.

Q: I know you're still a way out from the season starting next year but can you give us any insight into the schedule?

A: We're still working on our travel schedule, but we'll get all the kids on campus next fall, and it'll look the same as any other varsity sport. We'll be doing daily practice, weights, film, team bonding, some community service, everything. The athletes will have a lot on their plate but that's what it's all about. The minimum amount

of matches for us is eight games, and we may only do that many in our first season to find out who we are as a team first. Rest assured; we're going to be competing with the best of them when it's time.

Q: Are there any goals or aspirations you have for your first season next fall?

A: My biggest goal is for us to make our imprint on Ferris. We're still going to be cheering at football and men's basketball games, but everything else down to the jerseys is completely new. So we need to come together as a family to put our name in the sand. I'm going to be a tough coach but I promise I'll love just as hard as I push them to be better. We got work to get done that's for sure.

Q: Are there any details you want Ferris students to know about STUNT that they don't know about?

A: You can have a cheer background, a gymnastics background, any type of sporting background and still play our sport. That's the beauty of STUNT and cheer is that people from diverse backgrounds can come together to compete in an NCAA-level sport.

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Nine and counting

Volleyball sweeps first matchups of conference play



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Libero Leah Bylut dives for the ball against the Grand Valley Lakers at GVSU Fieldhouse Arena.

Caden Hofmann
Special Editor

The No. 9 ranked Ferris State volleyball team opened up conference play with a sweep of the No.16 ranked Grand Valley State Lakers and the Wayne State Warriors.

The Bulldogs (9-0, 2-0 in the GLIAC) defeated Grand Valley (9-1, 1-1 in the GLIAC) by a score of 3-1 on Friday, Sept. 20. Ferris also defeated Wayne State (3-6, 1-1 in the GLIAC) by a score of 3-0 on Saturday, Sept. 21.

The Bulldogs picked up a key early season conference game versus nationally ranked rival Grand Valley. Last season, Ferris split the season series with Grand Valley 1-1, and would ultimately knock the Lakers, who won the GLIAC regular season title out of the GLIAC tournament.

Junior outside hitter Emma Bleecher acknowledges the rivalry but does not see Grand Valley as anything more than just another opponent.

"A good rivalry brings out the best in anybody, but to our team, they are truly just

another opponent," Bleecher said. "A lot of people think we play differently versus them, but we treat it as any other game and prepare just the same as anybody else."

Senior outside hitter Olivia Henneman-Dallape led the Bulldogs in kills with 19, and senior setter Kaylee Maat led Ferris with 35 assists.

The Bulldogs closed out the weekend trip with a dominant GLIAC game win versus Wayne State, a team Ferris swept two games to none last season.

Henneman-Dallape once again led the team in kills with 17, and Maat led the Bulldogs in assists with 37.

Freshman Gabby Piazza knows how big it is to walk away from the first weekend of conference play with a sweep.

"Our team has a clear understanding of what we need to do to succeed," Piazza said. "We know it's going to be a high level of play every weekend, and we know if we are able to execute our game plan it will show in the results."

The Bulldogs have been nothing short of dominant to begin the season, just three

wins away from tying the program record for the best start in a season at 12-0.

Senior middle hitter Syann Fairfield credits the flawless start to their connection as a team and their depth.

"Our connection on and off the court is something that really helps us succeed," Fairfield said. "We also are the best subbing team in the nation, we have a lot of depth this year, and it is really cool to see people come off the bench and make game-changing plays."

Bleecher believes the key to continuing the team's dominance will be to keep doing their jobs.

"We are all doing our jobs and contributing to the team in order to produce on game days," Bleecher said. "Every girl has a role to fulfill, and we are working every day to do that and reach the level of mastery to beat every opponent."

Looking ahead, Ferris will take its undefeated streak on the road once again to face Michigan Tech on Friday, Sept. 27, and Northern Michigan on Saturday, Sept. 28.

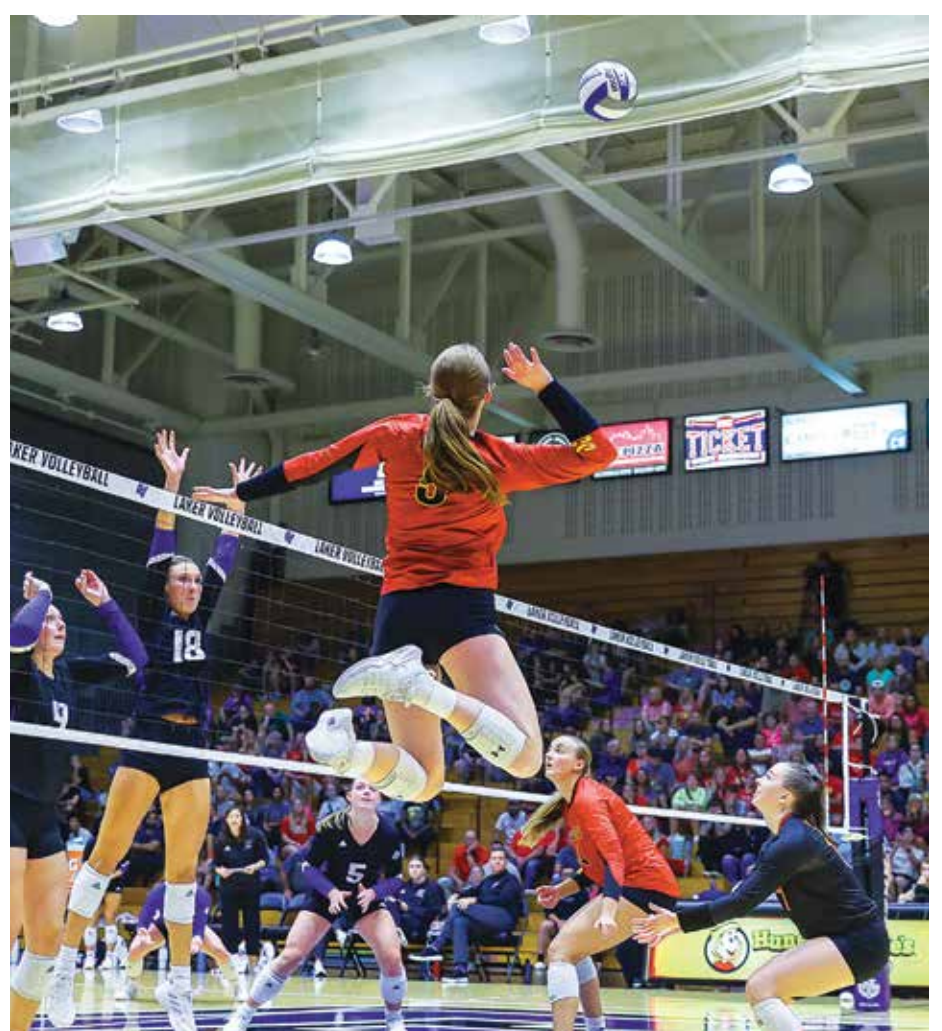


Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Olivia Henneman-Dallape jumps to spike an incoming set.

Tournament takeover

Bulldogs men's tennis win big at Davenport Invitational



Photo from Torch Archives

Senior Alessandro Santangelo returns a serve in a match from last season.

Nolan Matthews
Sports Reporter

The Bulldogs men's tennis traveled to Grand Rapids on Friday, Sept. 20 for the Davenport Invitational where student-athletes from Ferris, Davenport, Grand Valley and Northwood University competed.

Ferris reached the finals in five of the eight singles flights as well as three of the four doubles flights during the invitational.

Senior Alessandro Santangelo praised the team's performance during the invitational.

"I feel quite positive and proud of the way we performed as a team on Friday, I think all of the guys represented Ferris State proudly in every moment," Santangelo said. "And I'm especially proud of the younger guys who were able to quickly adapt to a new environment."

The Bulldogs' first two flights saw their players make it to the finals with sophomore Kevin Kovacs winning his first match against Grand Valley's Denys Zamaraiev before winning his

next match in a third-set tiebreaker against Northwood Alessandro Parigi. Santangelo won both of his matches against Northwood's Sergio Lopez and Davenport's Dan Calver.

Freshman Jose Perez and senior Felipe Iser lost both their matches in their Ferris debut.

Senior Kacper Pasielak fell to Davenport's Jaden Bender in the finals of his flight to a third-set tiebreaker 12-10. Freshman Adrian Catahan lost his first match but beat Chimo Minguez from Grand Valley in straight sets.

Freshman Milo Leuenberger won both of his matches, the first being against Grand Valley's Lawrence Ivanov then winning his second match against Northwood's Thomas Ladwein.

Despite the flight victory, Leuenberger wasn't a fan of his performance during the invitational.

"I was not that happy with my level of performance on Friday, I did not feel the ball at all during both of my matches and didn't move very well," Leuenberger said. "I could not get into the

first match at all, the second match was significantly better and definitely a good win to boost my confidence, I can certainly build on that."

Freshman Pi Wellington lost both of his matches and freshman Isaac Stahly fell in the flight finals against Stephen Claassen from Grand Valley.

After the singles matches finished, next up came doubles matches where in the first match saw Santangelo and Pasielak lose but won their second match against Calver and Jan Stolin from Davenport. In the second doubles flight, Kovacs and Iser fell in the finals to Simone Pacciolla and Bender from Davenport.

The third flight saw Perez and Catahan lose both of their matches. In the final doubles matches Wellington and Stahly won the first match before winning their flight due to a walkover.

The Bulldogs will be traveling back to Davenport for the ITA Regional Small College Championship, which runs from Saturday, Sept. 28 to Monday, Sept. 30.