



Registration race

Competing head to head with Grand Valley and Wayne State



Photo by: Jasmine Baar | Freelance Photographer

Tabling events around campus help to educate students on the importance of voting as well as registration.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

With election season approaching, a competition between schools for the most students registered to vote has been announced.

The announcement was made by Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, as a way to get more students registered for the upcoming Presidential election.

"I'm excited to announce the 2024 Campus Voter Registration Challenge – a friendly, nonpartisan competition between state campus rivals to see who can register the most eligible students to vote

and request their absentee ballots for the Presidential Election," Benson said in an announcement. "Get registered now and let the games begin!"

In a statement published by Ferris, it was announced that Ferris would be competing against Grand Valley State University and Wayne State University for who can get the most students registered.

The Director of Career and Professional Success Angela Roman has been tabling for registration, as a hope to get more students involved in the election process.

"The most asked question

is how does a student find out if they are registered to vote and where," Roman said. "Once they see how it easy it is to check their status and make changes, they are happy and ready for election day."

Roman also explained that students are able to check their registration status on the voter information page of the State of Michigan website.

Staff members aren't the only ones who have been working the registration tables. Math and Spanish junior Edgar Santiago-Rivera has been helping out at the

tables as a part of his student fellowship.

"I feel like it's pretty good that we're having a little rivalry, like a little competition for get a vote and just see is very wonderful, wonderful the same people like just getting out there to vote and just getting out there register as well," Santiago-Rivera said. "And like I want to, I want us to win, of course, but it is very nice to see, like, campuses getting involved and just getting people to register, and also potentially getting them to vote."

Santiago-Rivera has found that with the tabling, students have been asking about the

QR codes with hopes to help support Ferris in the competition.

In addition, he has also been helping educate students on the process of voting.

"I'm with Campus Vote Project, a national wide project by fair elections, which has the end to the goal is to have campuses that have lack of resources here, like here, because there's not a lot of voting engagement," Santiago Rivera said. "Last year, I learned just through zoom, but also through classes, how to really have voter engagement increase on campus. We're doing tabling,

and we're getting people to the balls, like, this upcoming November, but also getting to, getting them to register, to get absentee ballots right now early voting."

If students are interested in participating the competition ends on Oct. 21. Students who are interested in learning more about voter registration can visit tabling events throughout this month, as well as several people who will be around campus asking students if they have voted



News

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

Homecoming Ambassador candidates

Meet the four possible Homecoming Ambassadors



Photos courtesy of candidates

Homecoming ambassador candidates Allison Leslie (top left), Joshua Hoover, Nicholas Green (bottom left) and Hannah Cunningham.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

With the homecoming game occurring this Saturday, four candidates are hoping to win the title of Homecoming Ambassador at the game: Dental hygiene senior Hannah Cunningham, accounting junior Nicholas Green, construction management senior Joshua Hoover and medical laboratory sciences senior Allison Hoover.

In a Q&A with the Torch, the candidates shared the impact running has had on them.

What was your motivation for applying to be a candidate?

Cunningham: I've always been super involved on campus. Um, I joined a ton of organizations. When the application came out, I knew a few of the people who ran last year and the year before. And they, once I talked to them, they kind of told me, you know, more details about it, how good of an opportunity it was, and it was something, you know, that really interests me.

Green: It pretty much just happened, like I worked in the [David Eisler Center] and it was one day where I just seen Ben and David, and it was like, Yeah, this is like, for the homecoming ambassador. I'm like, alright, I'm just

gonna do it. And I just went all the way with it.

Hoover: So it was kind of one of my friends that originally said it when the guys in the fraternity with me, and he goes, Hey, I think you, you know you'd be a good candidate for this. And at first I was kind of like, and, you know, I've never done anything like this. I don't, you know, I don't know what to do, and I'm kind of still in that position. But I figured, I love this community. I love Ferris State University. And so that really started getting me thinking. And something my grandpa always said was, when he was here at Ferris the fraternities did so much for not just

Ferris State, but also the Big Rapids community. And whenever he talks about stuff like that, I always say, you know, I'd like to be able to do that. I'd like to make a difference like that and try to get us back to where that was. And so that really kind of got me going into wanting to run for homecoming ambassador.

Leslie: Originally, I was approached by Ben Avery, who is the advisor for Entertainment Unlimited, and he recommended that I look into it, and I did. And after kind of seeing what it was about, I really thought it would be a good way for me to kind of showcase what I have done for Ferris and for Big Rapids, and get the chance to represent my university.

What is going to be your takeaway from this experience, win or lose?

Cunningham: Definitely putting myself out there, this has definitely been something, you know, people are like, oh, like, you need to advertise more. And I think that's really throwing me out of my comfort zone. But I've also had a lot of fun with it. I've talked to a lot of new people on campus, just kind of spreading, like my advocate, like advertisement, like word of mouth. I've talked to a ton of new students that I've never talked to before, getting, like different people in different programs, having my friends, kind of like, spread that out and just kind of like get the support. So yeah, I definitely feel supported. Definitely met a ton of new people through this experience.

Green: I'm still gonna gain something regardless. Really just having the satisfaction on that I did something. I didn't waste my time, I didn't miss out on opportunity that I didn't just let something pass me by. That's as much as I can gain from this situation. It just people knowing that I put the work into the time and the effort to make something happen, to make my face known to you know, show my face that shows a lot of dedication and consistency, and that's powerful.

Hoover: I think it's more so just convincing myself I could do it. You know, I've never really been more very social person or very outgoing person, and I think that this, this experience, definitely showed me that, you know, like, it's possible for me to do that and kind of expand myself and promote myself in a way

that makes myself look good, as well as my fraternity and then my friends, my family and everything like that.

Leslie: I've already just seen, like, incredible support from my friends and even people that I don't quite know but are still behind me and supporting me. And I think that's really special, and I think I'm gonna remember that forever, and when I graduate, I'm gonna miss this tight knit community and everybody here.

What are your plans if you win?

Cunningham: Essentially, just the opportunity to get others involved. You know, since running a lot of people ask me, like, oh, like, when was that application? How did you get involved? And I think really kind of spreading that word to get, you know, newer people on campus involved, getting others involved with what we have on campus. Kind of like spreading the word about different opportunities that Ferris even invites all students to join, even at that junior senior level, and just kind of including everyone and getting, you know, it out there to make Ferris school like more like home for them cool.

Green: I want to bring an artist up here, like I was acting a little bit in the Detroit music scene, like I'm not a rapper or anything. But, you know, I was a lot. I was around a lot of musical artists, and I do want to bring, like, a concert up here, or something like that, I don't know but do that with Entertainment Unlimited. They do, like, post homecoming, I haven't really talked about it much, or, you know, through within the win, yet it was just an idea. I kind of want to get over the homecoming Ambassador thing and maybe win or something before I even do all that.

Hoover: I'd like to try to get more of a community outreach so that way it's not just Ferris State students that are going to different events and stuff like that, but also the like the community of Big Rapids as well. I feel like both the city and the school thrive the most when you're working together and having it done together. So I'd like to schedule more stuff like that, and then just promote like overall attendance of any RSOs are on campus as well, as you know, the high school, middle school that are here and their

families as well.

Leslie: I just kind of want to show the Big Rapids community what Ferris is about. And even, you know, beyond Big Rapids, just kind of showing that Ferris has given me wonderful opportunities to become a better leader, and what I have been able to do with that and accomplish with that.

What do you wish students knew about the process of being a Homecoming Ambassador candidate?

Cunningham: I think it's a great opportunity. I think, like, I would tell everyone to do it, really, no matter kind of like you said, winner, blues, I think you know even talking to like before. Candidates mark or the other three that are in it, they all seem like you know great people. They're super involved in like their organizations and stuff like that. And so it's definitely like a cool experience to see what other people have done for this campus.

Green: It's a gratification. It's not instant gratification. It takes time. And you know some things, if you work hard for it, you reach this milestone, and I did. And if you just keep going, if you believe in yourself, even when nobody else believes in you, you can do it. Even if you lose, you can still win, because you work for this moment. So the moment that you're that you are going to win, you can go even harder, because you know the loss. It wasn't a loss, it was just a lesson. And you take that experience and you just keep going.

Hoover: I think more students should do it. I think more students run. I think there's four candidates this year, and I think it's a good way for Ferris to get together, especially for homecoming week, where, you know, all of us are together as a team, as Bulldogs. And I think it's just a fun experience that a lot more people should really, you know, try to expand themselves and go for it.

Leslie: N/A

The winner will be announced during the Homecoming game on Oct. 5.

MICHIGAN NEWS UPDATE

Blase Gapinski
Culture Editor

The Detroit Tigers have clinched a spot in the Major League Baseball postseason with an unpredictable comeback which will mark their first appearance in the MLB playoffs since 2014.

At the beginning of August, the Tigers had only a 0.2% of entering the playoffs as they were 10 games back in the wild card spot race. Less than

50 days later, they won 34 games and only let up 11 losses.

This last week, they had a three-game series at home in Detroit against the Tampa Bay Rays where they were able to take home three crucial wins.

On Friday, Sept. 27, the Tigers were then able to clinch a playoff berth after taking a 4-1 victory over the Chicago White Sox, which solidified their wild card spot and solidified the Tigers team in MLB history.

Parking tickets on campus

The consequences of parking in the wrong spot



Photo by: Shaunti'ara Hill | Freelance Photographer

Public safety vehicles are frequently seen around campus, often patrolling parking lots for potential violations.

Kate Babel
News Reporter

Parking tickets can be a problem, what's an even bigger problem is finding a place to park.

Even with over 7000 spaces on campus, which includes 1057 faculty staff spaces, 2500 commuter spaces, 2300 resident spaces and 222 Pango meter spaces, overflow parking is still a problem across campus.

Ferris State Department of Public Safety Captain Timothy Jacobs explained the importance of access to parking spaces for residents.

"When you have a specific lot where we put somebody in or with a place where it's closest to their resident hall, or they're like for a commuter near their building when the space is taken up by somebody else it limits their access to their parking spot," Jacobs said. "It's a limited source that we have so there's maintenance for the lots, like snow plowing, painting of the lots, and so our goal is parking compliance. So, we don't have to issue the enforcement part of the people that aren't being compliant to benefit the people that actually paid for

their parking spot."

Jacobs then detailed how the Board of Trustees sets parking fines. The money received from students after paying off their tickets is then dispersed throughout the university from the general fund.

However, the money is not the problem, but rather the students who park in the wrong spaces are at fault. According to Bulldog Service CTR Specialist, Carla Hatfield, students who order their parking pass late usually end up in the overflow lots.

"If someone is in an overflow lot, it's because they waited to order a parking pass," Hatfield said. "Those spaces sold out and when those spaces are full you find another lot. It's not to be mean, There is only so much space, and once that's gone, it's gone. So there are plenty of parking spaces, but they are just not next to the door where people want them. So it's not a parking issue as it is a walking issue. No one wants to walk."

Hatfield explained there is a parking lot across South State Street that is rarely used because students would need to cross the street to get to STARR. As an alternative to crossing the street, students would resort

to parking closer in spots reserved for commuters and faculty staff and risk getting a ticket rather than being late for their class.

"They just want to park and get to their class on time, I understand that," Hatfield said. "But if you would have just planned ahead, parked across the street, and walked over if you would've left your house five minutes earlier and allowed for that parking, you wouldn't get that \$20 ticket."

When registering for classes and living on campus, parking can be considered an important factor. Depending on how far away the student lives from their classes, parking could be easy and convenient or very difficult. Senior in Optometry, Morgan Eiseler, explains her experience receiving a parking ticket.

"It was during exam week and I wanted to park at the library, and the only spots that were available were the metered spot, and I got a ticket," Eiseler said. "My ticket was \$10 and like obviously it was fine, I just paid it, but it was really inconvenient that I pay however much to park and have a commuter parking pass, and then I can't even park at the library."

With overflow parking, commuting students like Eiseler have trouble with finding parking to suit their needs. Planning could save students plenty of time and money, whether they have to drive to class or not.

Ferris DPS Detective/Sergeant Nicholas Greenway

talked about the total amount of tickets for 2024 so far.

"So the total tickets so far this year are 2721 tickets, and though those just encompass all various violations, and then the monetary amount to that is \$33,215 that doesn't mean that everybody has paid that, but that's

just what everyone has," Greenway said.

This amount comes from various students as a result of them parking in the wrong spaces. All in an effort to be either closer to where their classes are, or as a result of last-minute decisions to be on time for classes.



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Dawgs Against Tobacco Q&A

Initiative to change smoking policy at Ferris

Isabelle Marks
News Reporter

Dawgs Against Tobacco is hoping to create a 100% smoke and vape free campus.

34% of Michigan universities have a 100% smoke-free or tobacco free policy. The second most common policy (29%) is, smoking is allowed in private vehicles, as well as parking lots according to the State of Michigan.

Team lead Lauren Hitt, who is a social work major in the last year of her master's degree, believes this will help contribute to a healthier campus, and emphasized the importance of cessation resources rather than punishment.

Q: What is Dawgs Against Tobacco?

A: "Our project leads Dr. Kelly and Dr. Kelsh received a grant in 2023 from Truth Initiative to create a 100% smoke and vape free campus, at Ferris State University. Through this grant, Kyle Van Brocklin and I are college leaders who created this group through the College of Pharmacy. We have facilitated a campus wide survey that was used to understand how the campus body would support a 100% smoke and vape free campus, we have hosted

a campus clean up where we cleaned up cigarette butts around campus, and we have hosted numerous other events centered around the harms of nicotine use and cessation help."

Truth initiative is a non-profit organization that helps people stop smoking, and Truth informs them on the risks of smoking.

Q: Why did you join the Dawgs against tobacco organization?

A: "I joined this grant project because I strongly believe in advocating for a healthier campus. I also understand the barriers that someone has when they are addicted to nicotine, and I feel passionately about helping students or staff who are struggling with a nicotine addiction."

Q: What does this organization hope to accomplish, and how will it accomplish that?

A: "We hope to accomplish a 100% smoke and vape free campus at Ferris State University. We have done a lot of work to hopefully accomplish this goal, including creating a Vape/Tobacco-Free Campus Taskforce, which met monthly last academic year, we surveyed the entire campus, students and staff and we gathered those results and shared them with the uni-

versity, we also received an extension to our grant from Truth Initiative which allows us to continue this work. This upcoming semester we have events planned for October, November and December.

We also hope to accomplish having more cessation resources available on campus. In order to have a 100% smoke and vape free campus, it would be imperative to have resources for students or staff who have a nicotine addiction and rather than 'punishing' someone when enforcing the policy, we would have resources to help them."

Q: How does Ferris's tobacco policy differ from other universities in Michigan?

A: "Currently Ferris State University has a 45% passing rate compared to other Universities when it comes to vaping and smoking on campus.

Our currently policy is as stated: 'Smoking is prohibited within twenty-five (25) feet of the exterior doors of all Ferris State University facilities unless officially designated otherwise by the University.'

Q: What impact has Dawgs Against Tobacco had on campus so far?

A: "We have not noticed any major impacts on cam-



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Smoking happens frequently around campus, even with reminders.

pus yet, but we have been able to at least start the conversation and gained support from both students and staff at the university."

Q: Are there any upcoming events?

A: "We have an event on Oct. 17 called "A Conversation on Vaping with Dr. Shelley Schmidt" from 6pm-8pm in the DEC Ballroom 202A&B. We will be discussing several factors around vaping as well

as quitting tips."

President Bill Pink had seen some of the things Dawgs against Tobacco has done.

"I've seen some of their information in terms of some of the ways they have been having some of these conversations," Pink said. "I think as those conversations get more and more, our folks will continue to listen and have consideration for what that could

look like and needs to look like. I have not had a whole lot of that conversation just yet, but I have been hearing about it. I do know some of our folks have been engaged in that."

Ferris is tied last with three other Michigan universities on the Tobacco-free report card, conducted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Community competition

Disc golf brings friendly competition between Ferris and the community



Photo by: Sam Mulder | Torch Photographer

Sam Perry, an accounting major, throws his distance driver.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

The 11th annual Big Dawg Disc Golf tournament brought together Ferris students, alumni and community members last Sunday.

The competition takes

place each year as way to get current students out into the community, to introduce them to alumni and prospective students, and ultimately decide who will be declared "The Big Dawg".

This year's competition saw business administration

junior, and the Disc Golf Club President Benji Zorn take home the title of "The Big Dawg".

"It's something that I wanted, a lot of stress, a lot of pressure," Zorn said. "You know, I lost it the first time I ever played it, I lost

by one stroke, came down like the last hole. . So I really wanted to show up and win this event while I was a current student. So while it's a course, I've played off every day, all the time, still was very nervous, felt a lot of pressure, especially coming down the stretch of it, because I was playing some local pros from Grand Rapids and kind of a Muskegon area, so it was stressful. But you know, you always got to trust in yourself. Know you can do it, kept a positive attitude and was able to prevail."

While Zorn was happy with his win, he was also happy about the outcome of the event. Zorn believes that the participation is what makes Disc Golf what it is.

"All the alumni come up Leonard [Johnson] always is there. Makes the course look good, and it's just a great time to see other Bulldogs playing disc golf, and to kind of rejoice in that," Zorn said. "And sometimes we have a prospective students who are looking to join and they're able to kind of see

that culture and that excitement that we're building. So, it's really great for that too, and it just good times we're slowly going to get into more of those regional events and the national events. It helps have us have a fun event at home, especially after the conference event, to just be like, this is what we are, and this is what we're kind of going to grow to at the end of the year."

There were a total of 54 participants at this year's tournament with six men's divisions and one woman's division.

Participating in the women's division was biochemistry senior Mikayla Ealy. Ealy ended up pacing second in a close match.

"My teammate Delaney Beckett is a super consistent player and I did my best to match her but fell short," Ealy said. "Finishing hole 18, I was told that Delaney and I were tied and that we had to go into a playoff to see who wins. The nerves increased but I did my best to remain calm and happy no matter

the outcome. "

Ealy found the competition to be a great way for the team and her to grow.

Head Coach Leonard Johnson was happy with the wins that the team was able to take away from this year's tournament.

"It was to determine who was, you know, the main job was to determine who was the best player on all the all the fairest players. But the tournament is open to all players all around the state, and we typically have way more than half of the competitors that aren't Ferris students," Johnson said. "Happy to report that our men won the professional division, the first and one division, and the second amateur division, and also the women's division."

The competition helped bring in more prospective students and create a sense of community for all involved. The team plans to continue to practice and compete for a chance to make it to nationals when spring hits.

Culture

Blase Gapinski | Culture Editor | gapinsb@ferris.edu

Voices of heritage and culture

HLCC hosts poetry event for Hispanic Heritage Month



Photo by: Bryann Hill | Freelance Photographer

Vanessa Jimenez reads her personal poetry to student attending the Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center's "Word-Up" Event.

Ni'Jah Rankin
Freelance Reporter

The Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center hosted a "Word Up" event on Thursday, Sept. 26 at the David L. Eisler Center fireplace.

Word Up was a slam poetry event that had two guest speakers from The Diatribe, a performing arts activism group, read their poetry to students.

The first guest speaker was Vanessa Jimenez, a Hispanic woman who writes and performs her poems with themes of her identity, heritage and belonging. She also makes sure to emphasize reclaiming her cultural stories from her perspective.

During her poems, she spoke about her ancestors who paved the way for her to be where she is today and her experiences being a Latina-American.

She has been writing since she was 11 years old and only started performing her poetry in college. She thinks it is important for the Latino community to be able to have a platform to express themselves artistically because it is a way to share their various stories.

"We're not a monolith, we all have different stories," Jimenez said. "It's important for us to reclaim those experiences and know that there is not just one story that represents Latino culture."

Even though she came for Hispanic Heritage Month, she felt this should not be the only time universities should celebrate culture, and that culture should be celebrated throughout the year.

"It's important for us to celebrate not only Latino culture, but all the cultures here," Jimenez said. "It's also important to embrace that year-round because culture is all around us."

Shayna Haynes-Heard was also a guest speaker who shared her poetry. In her poetry, she spoke about themes of social justice, human experience and her life story. She also believes that the celebration and expression of cultures and people of color is important for all institutions because even though some cultures may be a minority, they still are a part of the community.

"The least that universities can do is shine the light on our skills, talents history and our truth," Haynes-Heard said. "We're here and we are not going anywhere so we might as well embrace it."

During the event, there was also a small poetry performance from a recent Ferris graduate, Massiel Caldron. Although she has a bachelor's degree in English and has written many poems before, this was her first time sharing her poetry with a group of people.

She decided to share one

of her poems, where she expressed her experience of moving from New York to Michigan. She also gave the audience a physical representation of the differences and changes she made before and after her move.

She showed the difference in her attire for each state and what that meant to her, with New York being tough and straightforward and Michigan being more subtle when it comes to the inequalities she experiences.

"In New York, it was a lot rougher to stick to your identity," Caldron said. "[In Michigan] it's more of a soft ignorance."

Even though she found out about this opportunity on short notice, she is glad that she could be a part of the event and feels that it was very relevant to her story and Hispanic History Month.

Throughout the event, you could hear the crowd clapping and snapping at times when they felt like they resonated with a specific part.

Elizabeth Milan, a sophomore in design, was in the crowd during the event.

Milan loved the event. She felt like the poems shared were impactful and was glad she went. She also feels like people in her culture need to be heard and able to be unified.

"Hearing all the poets say each poem and how they felt when they were writing them

helped make their voices heard," Milan said. "It lets the world know that people of color are amazing no matter what circumstances we go through."

Biology freshman Anjaleah Barraza also went to the event. She went because she thought that it was important to see people who look like her be able to express themselves.

She believes that when people of color can express

themselves through art, it provides a different perspective to others who are not in that culture. She already loved slam poetry, so she thought that the event was great.

"I think it draws people in a way that people wouldn't normally be able to be," Barraza said. "It was really powerful, especially for the people who spoke and were able to use their voices, which is not as common for people

like us."

HLCC will be hosting more events for Hispanic Heritage Month and throughout the year. Their next event for Hispanic Heritage Month will be a Hispanic Film Showcase on Tuesday, Oct. 8 in the Interdisciplinary Resource Center building from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

To keep up with HLCC and their events anyone can follow their Instagram for any updates: @ferrishlcc.

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Media Minute

Beetlejuice Beetlejuice

Lucas Gill
Web Editor

“Beetlejuice Beetlejuice,” the sequel to the 1988 horror-comedy classic “Beetlejuice,” was released on Sept. 6 to critical acclaim.

Warner Bros. and director Tim Burton look to expand the franchise with this long-awaited installment. The film’s plot follows Lydia Deetz, now a mother in the modern day, and her return to her old family home after her father’s passing. Lydia must reluctantly gain the help of Beetlejuice, a demon with ties to the Deetz family and a stake in her past, to save her daughter from being trapped in the afterlife as elements of our world and the land of the dead collide.

While it has been 36 years since the initial release of the original “Beetlejuice”

film, its sequel isn’t any mere cash-grabbing title that tries to ride off the nostalgia of the original. “Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” builds off of its predecessor when it comes to the worldbuilding and established elements the first film created. Many elements serve to pay homage to the original in creative ways.

“Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” is packed with plenty of great performances. Michael Keaton and Winona Ryder return to reprise their respective roles as Beetlejuice and Lydia. The two have an excellent character dynamic that offers plenty of fun moments. This movie shows that Keaton is the perfect choice to play the title character, bringing loads of charisma and energy to his performance. The new characters the movie introduced are welcome additions. I enjoyed Jenna Ortega’s role as

Lydia’s teenage daughter, Astrid. She has plenty of great moments, with her character creating an emotional tie to Lydia’s character. I can’t help but mention Willem Dafoe and his performance as the paranormal cop Wolf Jackson. His line delivery and hilarious mannerisms are fun to watch as we track his hunt for Beetlejuice.

I commend “Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” for keeping its tradition in its heavy use of practical effects. The film’s art direction is its strongest aspect. The costumes, makeup and set design are phenomenal and are immensely creative. The designs of the large variety of ghosts in the afterlife look just as amazing. They go together with the clever use of lighting and color throughout the movie.

This has also been one of the funniest movies I’ve seen

this year. There are plenty of self-referential and fourth-wall-breaking moments in its script and soundtrack.

The soundtrack is strong in its own way. It serves to elevate some of the more comedic moments very well. The use of “Tragedy” by the Bee Gees and Richard Harris’s “MacArthur Park” lead to some especially iconic moments.

Overall, “Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” is a fun movie and a great theatre experience. The spectacle of a movie with a clever script, with great performances. The film has elements that fans of the original and newcomers can enjoy.

This is a great example of the right way to make a legacy sequel. “Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” is a perfect addition to your future Halloween watchlist!



Photo courtesy of Wiki Commons

“Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” is in theatres now and isn’t set to be streaming until late November.

Roboday 2024

Robotics at Ferris makes its return



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Big Rapids natives, The Big Red Theory, work on their robot after a match.

Aiden MacLean
Freelance Reporter

The Ferris State Roboday 2024 event has proven to be a resounding success, generating excitement not only for its competitive atmo-

sphere but how it showcased the university’s facilities and campus life.

Held at the Jim Wink Arena, this off-season robotics competition drew in participants from across Michigan and left a lasting impression

on students, mentors and volunteers alike. The event’s organization and the university’s efforts to elevate the experience for attendees have laid the groundwork for a bright future for robotics at Ferris State.

Participants and mentors had plenty of praise for the Jim Wink Arena, which served as the heart of the competition. Wayne Tenbr, a mentor for NC GEARS Robotics Center out of Fremont, Mich., noted how much better the

arena performed this year compared to previous events.

“The arena was well put together and well organized. In the past, the arena was rushed to put together, causing many faults in the field, but this year it has not been a problem,” Tenbrink said.

Tenbrink’s comments highlight how the university learned from past experiences to ensure a smoother, more professional event.

This sentiment was echoed by Jordan McClain, team captain for MARS Rovers 4004 from Muskegon, Michigan, who praised the improved setup. “The field was much better this year,” McClain said, emphasizing the importance of a well-maintained and functional competition space.

He also shared how much he enjoyed exploring Ferris’ facilities, particularly the engineering building, commenting on how well the welding program was organized and how interconnected the facilities were.

The campus also left a lasting impression on visitors, with many expressing interest in the university as a potential destination for their academic futures. Don Walker, a mentor for Da Mouse from Port Huron, noted that events like Roboday sparked greater interest in robotics on campus.

“Two of the old students on the team have come to Ferris as students and learned of Ferris from Roboday,” Walker said.

Walker enjoyed the organization on campus and amenities, particularly the free meals offered at the Rock Cafe, which added a welcoming touch to the event.

The event allowed high school participants to see Ferris State in action and gain an understanding of the academic programs available to them. Many students, like McClain, were particularly impressed with the hands-on learning environments the campus offers. The exposure to the university’s programs during Roboday may encourage more students to consider Ferris for their higher education, especially those already interested in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

The success of Roboday was due in no small part to the hard work of Ferris State volunteers. Janek Vedock, an accounting student at Ferris who volunteered for the event, shared his thoughts on the growth of the event compared to previous years. Vedock also noted that there were more volunteers this year, which contributed to the event’s success.

CONT ON PG. 7



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Teams RoboVikes, Gladiators and Byron Robotics express emotions as their robots shot rings into the goal.

ROBODAY 2024 CONT.

Ferris State’s involvement in the FIRST Robotics community and its increasing focus on hosting robotics competitions underscores its commitment to fostering innovation in STEM fields.

For students like Mackenzie Clayton, who is part of the university’s Robotics Student Organization (RSO), the upcoming in-season event

in March will be the key to raising the profile of robotics on campus. However, she believes it will require robust advertising and promotions to attract more Ferris students to these events.

“The season event in March will reach students on campus, but it would require a very strong marketing campaign to attract more Ferris students,” Clayton said.

Roboday 2024 has not

only provided an exciting competition for high school robotics teams, but demonstrated Ferris’ potential to be a central hub for robotics education and events. The positive feedback from participants and mentors alike suggests that the university’s facilities and campus experience are highly valued, and with continued improvements, Ferris could become a premier destination for future

robotics competitions.

The exposure to high school students, many of whom are at a pivotal stage in deciding their academic futures, positions Ferris State as an attractive option for those looking to continue their STEM education. As Walker mentioned, past Roboday events have already

influenced students to enroll at Ferris, and the 2024 event seems poised to inspire even more.

The upcoming in-season event in March will be another opportunity for Ferris to shine, and with the momentum gained from Roboday 2024, it could attract an even larger audience, further solid-

ifying the university’s standing in the robotics community. For now, the event has set a strong foundation for the growth of both robotics competitions and the broader STEM initiatives at Ferris State University.

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Opinions

Jackie Moglia | Opinions Editor | mogliaj@ferris.edu

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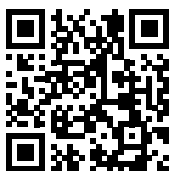
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Torch Staff

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Production Manager Harmony Goodman	Opinions Editor Jackie Moglia
Production Assistant Hailey Nye	Multimedia Editor Jordan Wilson
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Special Editions Editor Caden Hofmann	



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Advisor
Scott Kowalewski
ScottKowalewski@ferris.edu

EDITOR'S COLUMN:

A realistic conversation on parking

A senior's reflection on the parking situation



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

Multiple parking violations are often found, similar to this one behind the Creative Arts Center.

Dylan Rider
Editor in Chief

Lately, I've reflected a lot on my college career thus far. Just the other day, I wondered how long I've spent on campus just searching for a parking spot.

Like many, if not all of you, I've had to deal with the battle that is parking at Ferris State University. I've been ticketed, both justly and wrongfully, and was late to a class because of it, or have had to park away from where I needed to be. It's not fun nor have I enjoyed it.

Parking is everyone's favorite inconvenience at a university, not just Ferris. I read a Michigan Daily article about their trials and tribulations with parking at a school with 42,896 more students than us. I can't even begin to imagine what they've got going on.

I don't think there's a single person at Ferris that hasn't complained about the parking at this university. Hell, I don't think there's a single person at a university who hasn't complained about its parking in some form or another. My entire freshman year was spent complaining about half of the lot outside of Hallisy being closed, which had me parking in Lot 28 by McDonald's.

I get it. I do. Parking is incredibly frustrating when it should be such an easy thing. We've paid a good chunk of change to park on campus. Now there's no space. You've probably run your luck, just as I have, and parked in a lot you're not supposed to. You've either felt the luckiest you ever had not being ticketed or the angriest you've been in a bit because you were.

Everyone and their brother at this university has an opinion on parking and the people who work for the department. At the Torch, we've avoided people just lodging their next complaint in the form of an opinion article. So, why do I get to break the unwritten rule?

Well, it was just the other day when I was circling the William's Auditorium lot just hoping for someone, anyone to leave so I could swoop in and steal the spot. As I contemplated sneaking in and stealing a spot from a line of parking-hungry students, I crept a little too close to the exiting car. During their exit, they gave me a dirty look, and I'm sure I cussed them out under my breath.

Genuinely, why did I do that? Why do I feel the need to hurl my creatively vulgar words at someone just leav-

ing or trying to get a spot? Better yet, why is it a normal occurrence? It makes no sense for me to care. I can't change it. I'm mad at some abstract idea of "more parking!" not being able to come to fruition.

Parking is a frustrating endeavor, yes. Getting ticketed and having to appease the university, which you've thrown another good chunk of change at, with more money is downright annoying, yes. But, what can the university do to fix it while you're here?

Sure, let's build a couple of new parking lots! Where? Something further away from campus? Everyone knows that the honey pot of parking is closer. What I've been failing to realize all these years is that there's no quick fix to a parking issue. We cannot move heaven and earth to drop a new parking garage in

the middle of campus when there are other, more important needs at hand.

If the trend of Ferris' enrollment increasing continues to grow year after year, they're gonna have to do something. But that's not coming anytime soon.

Perhaps the mediocrity of parking here is just another preparation for what's to come in life. Parking enforcers and not finding a spot to park are vicious realities of a larger city. It's not going to get any better. So, to the underclassmen who think they've got the next complaint that'll make the university open their eyes: it won't.

Control the controllable while you're at this university and with how you live your life. Parking isn't one of them.

East or West: which is best?

Why East Campus Suites is better than West Campus Suites

Ni'Jah Rankin
Freelance Reporter

During the summer, I decided to switch my housing from the residence halls to the East Campus Suites.

Originally, I wanted to go to the apartments, but I put myself on the waitlist for both East and West Campus. East Campus ended up having the first availability. So, I just accepted the first place available.

Now that I live in East Campus, I do not regret it. I greatly prefer it. I think East Campus is better than West Campus because of the furniture, cost, location and some other small things.

First, I think that furniture is a key factor for why East Campus is better. Originally, I wanted to save up my money from the summer to buy some new but affordable furniture, or secondhand furniture from Facebook marketplace.

Then, as I started looking at the logistics of getting furniture, I was glad East provides you with all the furniture you need because having to

build a couch or find a big enough car to pick up some furniture and move it into an apartment would have been too much of a hassle. Especially since I would have to pay to stay on campus over the summer or move all my furniture that I bought out of my apartment and then move back in during the fall.

I am also glad that I ended up in East Campus because it is cheaper to move into a four-bedroom suite, which is \$3291 a semester, than a four-bedroom apartment in West Campus, which is \$3619 a semester. Even though a two or three-bedroom apartment in West would be the same, if not cheaper than a four-bedroom in East, that still would not account for furniture.

The location is also better, as almost every place I would need to go to is on that side of campus. The buildings are away from many others, so it is pretty quiet. West is far behind the McDonald's, and since I walk most places, I think it's too far a walk to where I need to go promptly. It is much easier and quicker

to get to class, the library or the David L. Eisler because I do not have to cross a main road, and can just take shortcuts anywhere.

Those were the main reasons I like East better than West, but I also have little reasons. One of them is the fact that I love the kitchens in East. When it comes to kitchens, my favorite must-have feature is an island. I have liked kitchen islands since I was a kid. You don't have to buy a table unless you are having a bunch of people over, and even then, most people aren't going to get a table for more than four. I also love how there is a little nature area with beautiful waters right next to the buildings to go see.

Overall, East Campus Suites is better because of the ease of moving one's belongings, the cost and features. It should be noted that I think both are way better than living in a residence hall, but if you're going to upgrade, you should go to East Campus Suites.



Photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

East Campus Suites includes furnishings, a kitchen and two bathrooms.

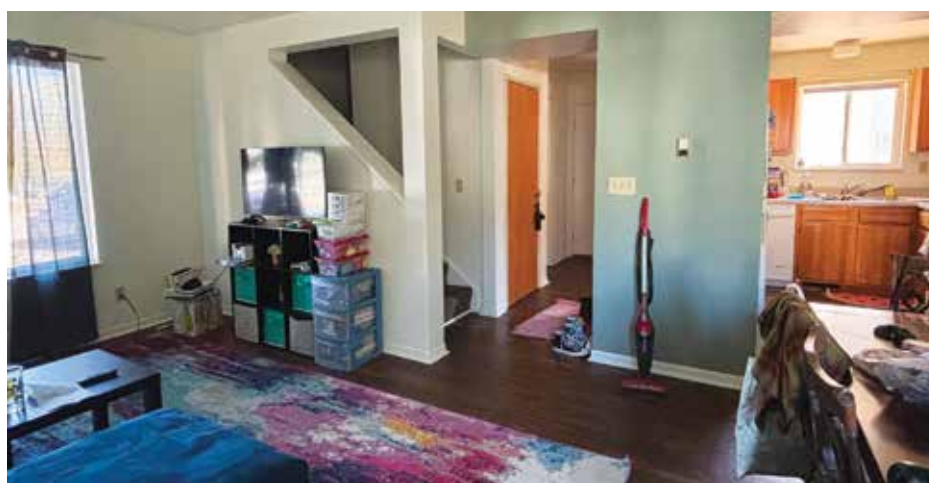


Photo by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

West Campus Apartments feature townhouse living with three floors.

Lacking student wages

Low wages cause student stress and financial woe

Jordan Wilson
Multimedia Editor

Ferris State University is the most affordable four-year college in Michigan. At least that is what Google first shows when asked for "affordable four-year colleges in Michigan."

If you ask any student on campus why they decided to attend Ferris, you often hear about its convenience or a specific program offered, but intertwined with most answers is the university's cost. An affordable school with a high acceptance rate, accessible scholarships and a walkable campus is appealing. It was for me when I decided to enroll.

While, on paper, this may look good, it does not properly reflect all areas that students deal with financially. We often forget those hidden costs, especially when trying to get by day-to-day. Everyone has their own. Mine is continuously buying fresh fruit. I want raspberries, but the mold beats me to them more than I would like to admit. Something small, like produce going bad, shouldn't have a large effect on my pocket until I think about it.

See, as a student, time is money. If we didn't have classes, we could work more hours and make more. But we have classes and are limited to working 20-some hours a week, so money is tight. When you think about it, two five-dollar containers of raspberries cost what I get paid in one hour.

How is it reasonable to assume that the average college student can afford to live on \$260 a week? It is not. Reasonable is understanding that because Ferris is viewed as low-cost, a large chunk of students attending does not rely on external financial aid. In this economy, students I know who have never had a job are now working. Although the school has many useful resources to help with this, there is one blaring issue that students face. Low wages through on-campus employment.

Ferris does abide by Michigan's newly increased minimum wage, at \$10.33 an hour, and offers students in select positions yearly raises. The student positions range from desk work to food service. The appeal of on-campus jobs for students is that they are flexible with sched-

ules, something that outside employers tend to be difficult with.

It is also important to recognize that by being the largest employer in the area, Ferris' pay rates set an average for other employers nearby. Therefore, starting wages at other potential employers, like fast food and retail, are lower than in other areas in Michigan. Many students like myself have gone from working entry-level positions paying \$17 an hour in their hometown, to making \$10.33 an hour as a student employee at Ferris.

If the cost of goods in town reflected the pay gap, perhaps students would be less frustrated. But because of the township's proximity, costs are often higher, as there's less competition nearby. One good example is gas. I have noticed that gas prices in Big Rapids are often higher than in Grand Rapids. Add in less public transportation and commuting in Big Rapids starts to get expensive.

Ferris has been vocal about wanting to support its students and see them succeed. Many resources are offered to help students with

income inequality. I should know, as I worked over the summer to open the Bulldog Food Pantry. At the end of the day though, Ferris is still a business. Enough revenues need to be made to afford the expenses. According to the Ferris State University 2023-2024 Fact Book, 68.1% of total revenue was recorded from tuition and fees, while compensation accounted for 68.4% of total expenditures from the last operating year. The rate of students employed to staff is relatively 50/50.

As it stands, student employees are Ferris's lowest cost in terms of compensation. So, it would cost the least to raise student wages compared to faculty, who are

paid appropriately.

From a business aspect, there are multiple areas to cover when large changes like raises occur. I am not concerned about Ferris as a business however, I care about my education, my financial security and my future. I am speaking as a student who works the maximum hours each week, has scholarships and still struggles to make enough money to even save for after graduation.

Ferris, as an employer, needs to be realistic when it comes to their students. At this point, the school is short-staffed with student employees. Perhaps if wages were competitive, this would not be an issue. If the university tru-

ly wants to see its students succeed and grow then they need to provide the resources to do so.

Raising the minimum student wage would benefit students by reducing their stress, financial restrictions and increasing their quality of living. The university should be focused on the students currently enrolled, not future enrollments. The university has successfully found 56 million dollars in funding for two new buildings, so I am confident that a fraction of that could be reallocated to student wages.

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Sports

Connor Grypma | Sports Editor | grypmac@ferris.edu

Bulldogs overpower Yellow Jackets

Ferris football sets new program scoring record with 84-7 victory



Photo by: Ciara Brooks | Torch Photographer

The Bulldogs have scrimmage games during practice.

Caden Hofmann
Special Editor

The Ferris State football team sets a program scoring record dominantly, scoring

84 points against American International College.

Fresh off of a bye week, the No. 6 ranked Bulldogs (3-1 overall) traveled to Springfield, Mass. on Satur-

day, Sept. 28 where they defeated the American International College Yellow Jackets (1-3) with a score of 84-7.

The Ferris offense again came out hot, scoring 35

points in the first quarter. This is already the second time the Bulldogs have scored 35 in a quarter this season.

Head coach Tony Annese was very pleased with how his team came out to start the game.

“Going on the road, you are always nervous about the start,” Annese said. “We had a fast start, made a lot of plays and that was obviously a complete victory.”

Ferris defeated the Yellow Jackets by a score of 56-0 last season.

Junior running back James Coby led Ferris in rushing with 12 carries for 110 yards and a touchdown. Senior wide receiver Emari O'Brien led the Bulldogs in receiving with 2 catches, 93 yards and a touchdown.

Junior quarterback Trinidad Chambliss completed 58% of his passes (14-24) for 166 yards and two touchdowns, he added 25 yards and an additional score on

the ground.

Ferris' offense put up a season-high 744 yards. Ten different Bulldogs crossed the goal line for Ferris.

With so many weapons at hand for Ferris, it is not hard to see why the team has had so much early success on offense. So far this season the Bulldogs have averaged 524.8 yards per game on the offensive side of the ball which is fourth best in all of DII.

The Ferris defense allowed just 110 yards against the Yellow Jackets. This level of play has been consistent with the Bulldogs all year. Ferris holds the number five scoring defense in the nation, allowing just eight points per game, they also hold the number three total defense in the country, holding their opponents to a measly 175 yards per game.

Junior linebacker Sefai Saipaia believes the team holding themselves to a high standard has fueled their

overpowering defensive campaign.

“We can face whatever team we want, it doesn't matter to us,” Saipaia said. “The real goal is the goose egg, we have been getting as close as we can, and I think that standard we set for ourselves is what guides us.”

The Bulldogs dominated the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball, running for 486 yards and holding The Yellow Jackets to negative 18 rushing yards.

Junior defensive lineman Tim Allen felt great about the defensive effort after the win.

“We try to play the best we can be,” Allen said. “No matter who it is next to you, you can trust them on this team, we knew how we were going to come out in this game and dominate.”

This week, The Bulldogs will host GLIAC newcomer, Roosevelt (0-3) in their conference opener on Saturday, Oct. 5 at 2 p.m.

New season, new goals

Bulldogs 50th year on the ice full of new faces

Dylan Rider
Editor in Chief

Hockey season is upon Ferris, as the Bulldogs will open their season against Miami (OH) on Oct. 4.

However, this isn't the same Ferris team from last year. Following the Bulldogs' 10-24-1 record (6-17-1 in CCHA) and an eliminating two-game sweep at the hands of Bemidji State in the CCHA Quarterfinals, Ferris underwent massive changes in the offseason.

The team lost a lot of long-time stalwarts. Their entire first line, comprised of senior forwards Antonio Venuto, Stepan Pokorny and Jason Brancheau departed the university. Venuto transferred to Merrimack, Pokorny is playing professionally in his native country of Czechia and Brancheau ran out of eligibility. Brendan MacLaren, who donned the role of co-captain in 2022 before capturing the lone “C” in 2023, also had no eligibility left.

To add insult to injury,

the Bulldogs also lost both starting goaltenders, senior Logan Stein and junior Noah Giesbrecht, to the transfer portal. Stein stayed in state with his transfer to the University of Michigan while Giesbrecht left for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

Finishing up subtractions for the team, the Bulldogs lost two promising freshmen in forward Luigi Benincasa and defenseman Jack Mesic. Benincasa, a recipient of CCHA All-Rookie team honors last year, headed to CCHA rival Minnesota State while Mesic, who registered 10 points in 36 outings, made his way to Western Michigan.

Head coach Bob Daniels reflected on the losses of Benincasa and Mesic.

“Those hurts. Those were harder to replace,” Daniels said. “I don't know that we did it in terms of Luigi [Benincasa], that was a tough loss. Then to lose him in conference, that one that left the mark. And then Mesic, we lost him to Western. I think

we're in a little bit better position in terms of his replacement. We picked up a defenseman from Fairbanks, I think we were able to plug that hole. I'm not going to say it's a wash, but we're good there.”

Ferris added three forwards, one defenseman and one goaltender through the portal. The Bulldogs' forward core picked up junior Max Itagaki (Army), Redshirt sophomore Cole Burtch (Western Michigan) and junior Gavin Best (Michigan State). Ferris' lone defensive transfer comes as junior Xavier Jean-Louis (Alaska). Noah West, a grad transfer from the University of Michigan, acts as one replacement for the losses between the pipes.

The Bulldogs also has a freshman class of nine coming in:

Forwards: Jack Silich, Luke Lisko, Matt Corbet

Defensemen: Chris Lie, Logan Heroux, Kade Turner, Conner Brown

Goaltenders: Martin Lundberg, Connor McDonough

The coaching staff remains unchanged with Daniels coming back for his 33rd season with the Bulldogs. Assistant coaches Drew Famulak, Mark Kaufman and Dave Cencer are all still behind Daniels. A milestone will await Daniels this season, as he sits three wins away from 500 career victories.

For Daniels, the hardest thing about the offseason losses was having to replace a goaltending tandem that had their fair share of time in the net over the past few years. Daniels remarked that he “won't have a feel” for the goaltending situation “until Thanksgiving,” but conceded that West will start in goal for the Bulldogs. Daniels also added that Lundberg and McDonough will have an opportunity to earn a back-up role behind West or beyond.

Lundberg, a Norway native, recognizes that the new trio of goaltending has the potential to fill in the absence of Stein and Giesbrecht.

“Me, McDonough and West can be a good trio to

fill the shoes actually,” Lundberg said. “I mean, we have men like West [who] have been in the game for long. So I think it can be very good. McDonough has played in a junior league. So I think I can learn how the league works from both. I think we can be a good trio.”

Lundberg's goals for the season are to learn the league, get in good shape and get to know his teammates better.

Travis Shoudy, a junior defenseman for the Bulldogs, was named captain over the summer. For Shoudy, the captaincy means everything.

“It just means a lot that the guys and the coaches trust me to lead them and set an example each day as to the precedence of hard work culture and just the way we want to present ourselves on and off the ice,” Shoudy said.

Shoudy also commented on the importance of all the new faces brought into the team, believing that their styles of play can “jumpstart us right from the start.”

Despite all the changes that the Bulldogs have experienced since their loss to the Beavers in March, Daniels believes that the team will still bring something new to the table.

“There's something a little different with this group,” Daniels said. “You can't quantify [with] the eye test. They really work hard and they're self-guided. The leadership team that's kind of helping mold the culture, if you will, has done an outstanding job. So I'm really happy with where we're at right now.”

Daniels doesn't believe that the transfer portal has put the team in uncharted territory, as it's the “new normal for everyone” regardless of the “headache” that the offseason losses were for him.

The Bulldogs will open their season against the Miami (OH) Redhawks on Saturday, Oct. 4 and Sunday, Oct. 5 at Ewigeleben Ice Arena. Puck drop is set for 8:07 p.m. on both nights.

Unbeaten Bulldogs

Volleyball sweeps weekend games to stay undefeated

Nolan Matthews
Sports Reporter

The No. 7 ranked Ferris State volleyball team traveled to the Upper Peninsula to face off against divisional opponents in the Michigan Tech Huskies and the Northern Michigan Wildcats.

The Bulldogs (11-0, 4-0 in the GLIAC) soundly beat Michigan Tech (6-5, 2-2 in the GLIAC) by a score of 3-0 on Friday, Sept. 27. The Bulldogs also defeated Northern Michigan (7-4, 3-1 in the GLIAC) on Saturday, Sept. 28 by a score of 3-1.

The Bulldogs kept the ball rolling with another win against a divisional opponent in the Huskies who made it to the GLIAC semifinals but fell to Grand Valley. Last season the Bulldogs split the season matches against the Huskies, winning their first matchup 3-0 but losing late in the season to the Huskies 3-2.

Ferris dominated this match, they swept all three sets of this match winning the first set by a score of 25-19, the second set's score being 25-22, and then the final set's score being 25-21. Senior outside hitter Olivia Henneman-Dallape led the team again in kills with 18 and 19.5 points, senior setter Kaylee Maat led the match with 25 assists and 11 digs, while senior outside hitter Claire Nowicki and senior middle hitter Syann Fairfield both had six kills.

Fairfield spoke about her performance and how the

team worked together.

"I was able to make sure our blockers were all doing the right things and working hard together to try and stop their key attackers," said Fairfield "Together as a team we worked really hard on our scout and making sure we were able to adapt to what they were bringing at us."

The Bulldogs then faced off against the Northern Michigan Wildcats, who the Bulldogs have not lost to since 2021, kept their winning streak against the Wildcats alive. The Bulldogs lost the first set to the Wildcats by a score of 25-22, but then won the next three straight sets, winning set two dominantly 25-10, set three by a score of 29-27, and then finishing off the Wildcats in set four with a score of 25-19.

Henneman-Dallape once again led the team in kills with 22 and with points with 26, freshman outside hitter Gabby Piazza also had 12 kills and 14 points in the match, with Maat again leading the team in assists with 44.

Maat gave the keys on how to keep the momentum going forward

"We plan on keeping the momentum going forward by just taking one day at a time as well as getting 1% better every day," said Maat. "Whether that is in the gym, in the weight room, or in the classroom."

The Bulldogs have lost a combined five sets through their 11-game win-streak. Ferris is chasing their best



Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics

Chelsie Freeman and Gabby Piazza block a spike at GVSU Fieldhouse on Sept. 20.

start since the 2015 season where they started 12-0.

Henneman-Dallape gave her thoughts about the Bulldogs start to the season.

"I am really proud of our team, I think we work really hard to get better every single day and just take it one game at a time," Henneman-Dallape said. "I'm proud of us winning, but I think I am more proud of us sticking together and never giving up no matter what the score is, I know that winning or losing during any set that we're going to compete at the same intensity."

The Bulldogs will have traveled to Midland to face off against the Northwood-Timberwolves on Tuesday, Oct. 1, and will have their home opener game against the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers on Friday, Oct. 4 at 6 p.m.



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Football update

Calder City Classic

Connor Grypma
Sports Editor

Last week Ferris and Davenport University came together to announce the creation of the "Calder City Classic" rivalry between the two program's football teams.

President Bill Pink and athletic director Steve Brockelbank were in Grand Rapids by the famous "La Grande Vitesse" to ring in the rivalry alongside Davenport's president Richard J. Pappas and athletic director Paul Lowden.

Ferris and Davenport have competed against each other

eight times over the past decade in the GLIAC conference and decided to put a name to the rivalry in partnership with the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame.

The rivalry matchup will take place every regular season where the two teams will compete for the Calder City Classic trophy.

The first official matchup of the rivalry will take place later this season at Top Taggart Field before returning to Davenport's home field in 2025. The plan is set for every third year of the rivalry to be played at a neutral Grand Rapids location beginning in 2026.

President Bill Pink showed his support for the new rivalry at the creation ceremony.

"This game will give us a chance to establish a new tradition," Pink said. "West Michigan sports fans will have the opportunity to see two outstanding football programs go head-to-head, and also learn more about the excellent educational programs each of our great universities have to offer."

More details on the trophy and the official rivalry logo will be announced closer to the date of the first game between the two schools.

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