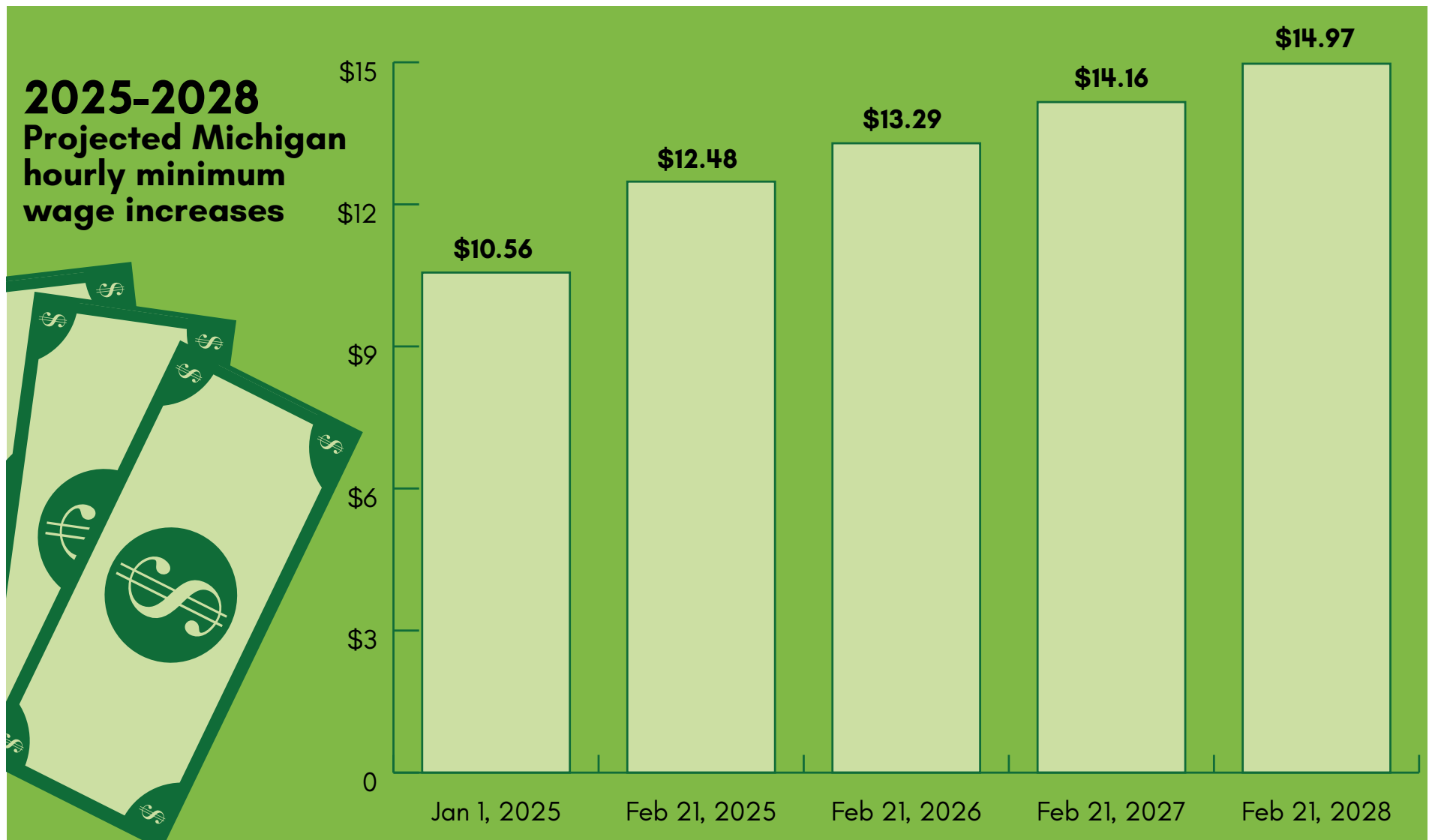




Higher wages in effect

How Michigan's minimum wage increase will impact Ferris



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Nolan Matthews
Sports Reporter

Student employees at Ferris and across Michigan got an 18% minimum wage increase thanks to Michigan raising the minimum wage from \$10.56 to \$12.48.

Along with the minimum wage law, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed the Earned Sick Time Act into law. This allows employees to accrue one hour of earned sick time for every 30 hours worked, which is capped at 72 hours for the year.

Students with an on-campus job will likely have received a pay raise as of Feb. 21. This can be a good thing for student employees, with

the inflation rate sitting at 3%, this means more money in student's pockets.

As for business administration freshman Molina Dewald, a lifeguard at the Student Recreation Center, she thinks the wage increase is a good motivator for herself.

"This pay raise is definitely a great motivator for me," Dewald said. "It shows me my hard work and contributions are being recognized, which makes me more committed to doing my best. Financially it helps me manage my expenses better and it gives me a little more flexibility."

This could also mean prices across campus could rise, however, it is currently unclear as Ferris' administration

members were unavailable for comment.

Along with the potential price increases across campus, the university could be seeing some more negative consequences, Payroll Operations Coordinator Nikki Lofquist wanted to make it clear that Ferris has been keeping up with the wage increase.

"A lot of the departments have already seen the budget change for the wage increase," Lofquist said. "They have been watching the news and keeping up on it, so the wage increase will only affect student employees, as we don't have anyone besides student employees making minimum wage. For the most

part, the university has done a good job in anticipating this change, but we will have a significant amount of full-time employees that will be receiving a pay cut."

We could see a bump to Ferris' budget with the wage increase. An 18% jump is a major boost, but according to Ferris President Dr. Bill Pink, the pay increase is not the only thing the university has to consider.

"Back in early fall when we first started hearing about this," Pink said. "Because it's not just the pay increase, it's also the paid sick leave, both of those things we've paid close attention to and making sure from a budgetary and funding standpoint that

we are prepared, and I think we are in a position to make sure we're going to comply with whatever we're told to comply with."

A large wage increase puts a university under a lot of stress, but Pink is proud of the university for being prepared for the raise. The university already has the budget committee preparing for the next pay raise, which will increase again, this time to \$13.29 by Feb. 21, 2026.

For supply chain management sophomore Kendall Roszczewski, also on the Club Sports Council, has concerns about the minimum wage increase.

"Raising the minimum wage does concern me in

some ways," Roszczewski said. "The first one is decreased hiring and layoffs, the Student Rec Center has so many employees and raising the minimum wage this substantially could affect them and the amount of workers they are able to pay. The second one being intramural sports, students pay a certain amount for intramural sports, with the minimum wage increase I fear that we may have to raise the price for intramural sports."

The minimum wage will steadily increase yearly until it hits \$14.97 by 2028.



Black History Month special edition PG. 7

This year, our Black History Month edition focuses on the theme of Black labor. Sociology professor Diane Jackson explains what labor is and the importance of Black labor in her guest writing appearance. Dr. Kasey Thompson lists some of the pioneers of Black labor within Ferris and FOX anchor Travis Hicks describes his experience as a Black journalist.

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News

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

Michigan

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Curtis Hertel Jr. took the Democratic Party's chair on Saturday at the party's convention.

Hertel took stage to call for unity in the party according to the Detroit Free Press. Hertel took over the Michigan Democratic Party Chair from Lavora Barnes who had served on the chair from 2019 to 2024.

Hertel won the chair race after Al Williams did not receive the 1,270 signatures required to qualify for the ballot.

National

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Delta Flight 876 made an emergency landing in Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International airport after there was possible smoke on Monday.

The crew reported that there was possibly smoke inside the aircraft which resulted in an emergency landing with passengers evacuating by slides according to the New York Times.

The Federal Aviation Administration said that they would investigate the reports.

Global

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Friedrich Merz won Germany's election for chancellor on Sunday.

Merz has never had a position in ministry but plans to give more support to Ukraine according to BBC News.

Merz' party was hoping for a 30% vote-share however, they did not get as many votes as they had hoped.

There is a possibility that Merz's goal of forming a government by Easter will happen as they have 328 of the 630 seats filled.

Room renovation refresh

Office of International Student Services remodeling



Photo by: Shaunti'ara Reynolds | Torch Photographer

The International office has now been relocated.

Kate Babel
News Reporter

Renovations are underway as the Office of International Student Services fixes its office areas and lounge to create an open space for students and international students.

The office suite is housed in room 137 of the Interdisciplinary Resource Center, and the international student lounge is undergoing renovations to improve the space. These additions have been planned for over a year, with the recent renovations beginning a month and a half ago. Room 137 primarily serves as the temporary office space for staff and student workers.

Executive Director of International Education Tara Braun issued the renovations. She talked about how the space will provide more open space for students.

"So three areas are being redone, and that's because it's been quite a while since this area has been renovated, and there was wear and tear on the walls," Braun said. "The lounge area for our students, for our international and study abroad students also needed to be updated.

There were a lot of cabinets and counter space. It just was not a very productive use of space."

Braun further discussed how the room would serve as a training room where the program could do presentations during orientation for international students and presentations for study abroad.

The renovations include a new reception area, new carpets and movable furniture for staff and student spaces. This will create a welcoming space for anyone interested in participating in international programs.

"We'll have a great space in the lounge to do study abroad, webinars, orientation planning, other events that the office is planning that will highlight and showcase culture to the rest of campus we're planning on and all of that can be done in this space that will be so versatile," Braun said. "This is not only for international students. This is also for study abroad students or any students that we're working with."

The OISS works with international admissions, recruiting, immigration, study-abroad, international



Archive photo by: Jordan Wilson | Multimedia Editor

The International office before the renovation.

students and partner programs abroad. The Department of Extended and International Operations invested in renovating the spaces in partnership with the OISS to create a more productive, conducive workspace for students and staff.

Students eagerly await for the renovations to be completed, as it will serve as a comfortable environment for international, study abroad and regular students alike.

Software engineering senior Talha Muhammad is an international student from Pakistan who expressed his thoughts about the renovations.

"The remodel of the International Office is something we are all thrilled about. I believe it is going to become a home away from home for the international students on campus," Muhammad said. "The international student lounge especially is really exciting for us and I can't wait for it to be completed."

These renovations will benefit study-abroad students by opening up an area to explore the process of study-abroad programs and international cultures. The students can experience a more collabo-

orative and accessible lounge and office area for any questions about international studies and cultures.

Psychology senior Jenna Wardwell shared her thoughts on the renovations.

"I saw the floor plan, and it looks like it's going to be pretty spacious, a lot of new furniture, where the student workers are going to have their own little office, which is pretty nice. The lounge will have a coffee bar which I'm pretty excited about," Wardwell said. "I feel like there's a lot of places on campus that kind of need a renovation or some attention and love to it."

As one of the student workers, Wardwell frequents the office and the lounge area. She, along with many other students and staff members, will get to enjoy the open space.

Renovations are expected to be done at the beginning of April. An open house for the re-opening of the rooms will be on April 29, featuring international student programming and other student activities.

New Board of Trustees member

Get to know new trustee Matthew Evans

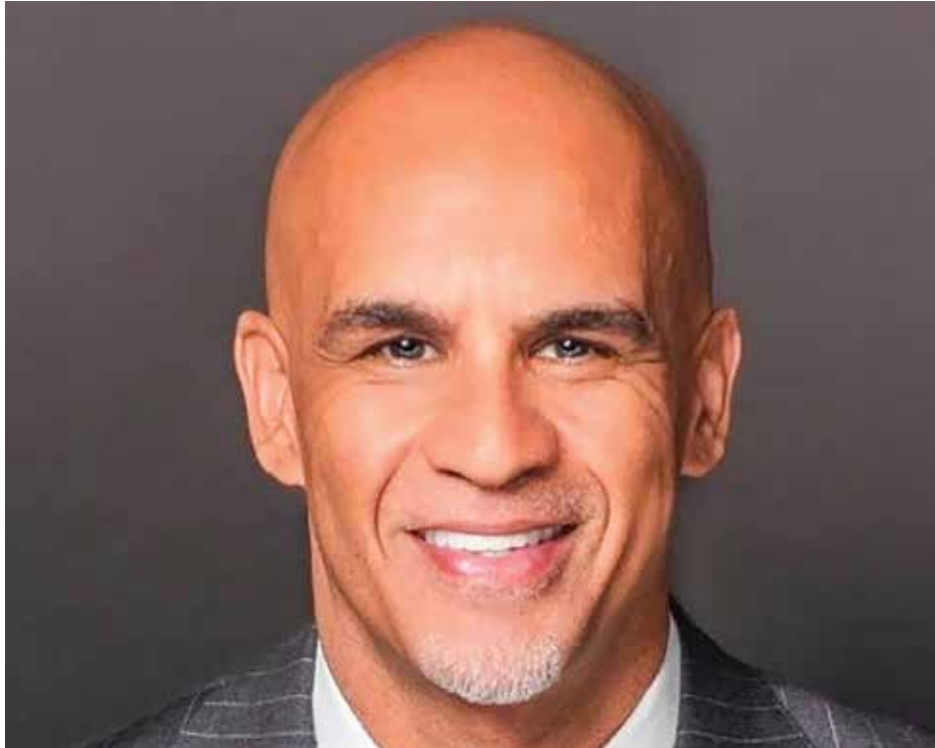


Photo courtesy of Ferris News

Matthew Evans was appointed to the board in January of this year.

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Matthew Evans has been part of the Board of Trustees for almost two months after he was appointed in December by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Evans is from Grosse Pointe Park, Mich. and has a bachelor of arts and a master of education in educational leadership.

He began his role on Jan. 1 and has begun working on the university's goal to increase enrollment. Evans explained his role on the board.

Q: Can you run me through the process of what goes into being appointed?

"You start the paperwork the process, it would be an application process. They do background checks, you

submit your references, you submit your class, past deployment, past educational experiences and then you go through a panel interview before the final selection and appointment which goes through this through the governor's office."

Q: What is your role with the project, overall?

"The overall role would be a liaison and represent representative for Ferris State for any college eligible demographic. So it could be high school students who are looking to go to college. It could be older students who are looking to finish their and continue their education. There are some articulated agreements with community colleges in the region, and we want to maximize those opportunities as well as raise

awareness of Ferris state's presence as a university and a great institution for higher learning."

Q: Are there plans for reaching out to students who aren't coming directly from high school?

"That is a very specific and highly targeted demographic, without question. There is tremendous value in gaining your four year degree later on in life, right? You have life context, you have experience, you have a lot of things that enable you to have a more seamless transition into getting your diploma, and we want to be able to make sure that that's something that is available for all students, regardless of where they are in their life experiences."

Q: You've been in the role for almost two months,

what are some things that you have implemented and started?

"The implementation comes as a form of planning, because we haven't had any actionable next steps yet, anything that we can put in motion, but we're making connections for Ferris State in the greater southeast region, there's going to be representation in an office in Detroit for Ferris and I participated in the first board meeting for my first board meeting last week, and so we were able to talk about strategy leading to implementation for both the state of Michigan and the surrounding states."

Q: Where do you hope to see Ferris with everything you are working on by the time you leave?

"I would like overall, overarchingly, be able to see Ferris State be recognized more broadly as a great institution, the great institution that it is, increase awareness, increase enrollment, and diversify the student body from different areas that fall within the state of Michigan and beyond. So we'd like to see the diversification of enrollment. I think there's a great opportunity to include students who are two years down the road in their community college development, as well as four year entering in so the transfer opportunity from community college to four year institution is one that we want to increase, and we want to increase the freshmen enrollment again in a broader base. So really create a larger platform, create awareness for Ferris State."

Evans' appointment lasts for eight years, meaning that his role will end in 2032.

News briefs

Student government community dinners

Kate Babel
News Reporter

"Ferris Dine Together Meals," sponsored by the Student Government Association, aims to provide a space for students to connect with others and make new friends, according to SGA President Stephen Bender.

Students will be able to eat in the space, regardless of whether they have a meal plan or not. The idea behind these dinners is to bring all students from different parts of campus and give them an opportunity to invite someone new to their friend groups or create a group of their own. Everyone is welcome to this event.

Starting on Feb. 26, the community dinners will occur at the Rock Cafe at 6:30 p.m. every week, alternating between Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Scholarship Universe

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

The scholarship portal for the 2025-2026 school year will close on Feb. 28 at midnight.

Some scholarships require that students have completed their Free Application For Federal Student Aid so they are matched with scholarships that follow their financial needs.

As they receive the FAFSAs for students, Ferris is putting the information into the scholarship portal for students, according to a post made by Assistant Director of Financial Aid Melanie Mulder.

There are also scholarships related to majors, extracurriculars and interests that students can apply for in addition to the financial need-based scholarships.

Some of these scholarships require some form of written answers, while others, more demographic-based information.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

Clarification: In the Feb. 19 edition of the Torch, the article "Puck drop for heart health" incorrectly stated the second half of the event would be held on the following weekend. In reality, it was held on Thursday, Feb. 20.

Corrections can be submitted through email at torch@ferris.edu

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Criminal justice and mental health

New changes hope to increase admissions



Photo courtesy of Loren Jessop/Ferriscope

Students in the criminal justice program from 1985 are shown practicing at the shooting range. Students have been taught firearm safety for years as part of the police academy.

Harmony Goodman
Production Manager

Ever since the media started spreading awareness about police brutality, Ferris' Academy has been trying to combat this issue.

Last semester, the Ferris Criminal Justice Academy implemented changes that benefit the overall turnout rate of the Academy and better prepare students for the situations they will encounter in the field.

Criminal justice assistant professor Michael Bomay spoke about the current state of the criminal justice program.

"I've noticed the university has a reduction of Academy recruits. Our numbers have gone down, and a lot of that can be from world events," Bomay said. "Social media

and media in general [show] a negative portrayal of law enforcement, [because of this] some of [the] challenges I think our university has is there's a lot of regional academies that you can pay out of pocket to go to with no education other than a high school diploma."

Since graduating from Ferris in 1993, Bomay has sought more experience and learning opportunities. Eventually, he decided to return to Ferris to get his master's degree and was offered a teaching position. Unsure of what he had to contribute to the program, he hesitated.

"I started flipping through the [course] book and in every chapter I had experienced something good and bad. I [realized] I could share [experiences that were] positive and other decisions I wish I

could have done differently," Bomay said.

With more perspective and open conversation being brought to the program over the years, the overall exposure and learning have changed for students as well.

Criminal justice sophomore Charlie Smith has noticed how Ferris is trying to create a better image for the criminal justice program.

"In my classes, there's a lot of diversity and we [have] a lot of discussion where you're [going to] hear everyone's side. [There's] a lot of different perspectives especially because they want to prep you for all the different perspectives you'll be dealing with in the field," Smith said. "It [gives] more awareness."

Interested in the criminal justice program offered at Ferris, Smith knew he was

where he wanted to be. He hoped to attend Ferris for the learning opportunities and the Academy because he felt it had more to offer than a traditional academy.

Smith noted while he appreciates and understands the importance of perspective, he is worried about the academy changes, especially the reduced hours of experience that the Academy has recently introduced.

"Does less experience [mean] we're not getting the same out of our academy that previous classes [did]," Smith said.

With the number of required hours cut, he is scared of the changes. Since he chose Ferris specifically for the experience the Academy has to offer, he is hoping that the changes won't mean he gets less out of the Academy.

He understands the reasoning for the changes, especially because mental health and burnout have become so prominent in the criminal justice track.

"The graduating class keeps getting smaller for the academy so [I see] why they are trying to change things," Smith said. "[The program] won't be as stressful so more people will pass the academy."

Director of the School of Criminal Justice Dr. Steven Amey said that the new changes within the academy are directly related to the new expectations for Michigan police officers to focus more on the mental health of officers.

Michigan has now stated that all criminal justice schools must have training faculties in behavioral and mental health.

"We have Dr. Mike Mendenhall, who went through and was the first one in the university to have that training," Amey said.

Focusing on mental health, high-stress situations and quick decision-making is the new direction of the program.

"This career right now is a difficult place to fill, not just as Ferris State or Michigan. It is a universal [trend] across the whole United States," Amey said. "I'm hoping that changes."

The criminal justice program hopes that these changes will positively reflect the Academy. Overall, the Academy aims to help reduce the number of students dropping out of the program and help with the number of admissions.

ON THE RECORD

Ember St. Amour
News Editor

Underage toking

Feb. 16, 7:46 p.m. - Officers were dispatched to Brophy Hall after receiving a call about a marijuana smell. The officers made contact with the resident, who was smoking underage. The case was referred for disciplinary action.

Bye-bye wallet

Feb. 17, 11:49 a.m. - Officers responded to Henderson Hall after someone reported their wallet as stolen. The case was closed due to lack of leads.

Mental health concerns

Feb. 17, 2:27 a.m. - Officers were dispatched to Oak View at East Campus Suites for a person who was believed to be suicidal. Officers found that the resident was depressed but not suicidal.

Opinions

Jackie Moglia | Opinions Editor | mogliaj@ferris.edu

The Ferris State Torch is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by The Pioneer Group.

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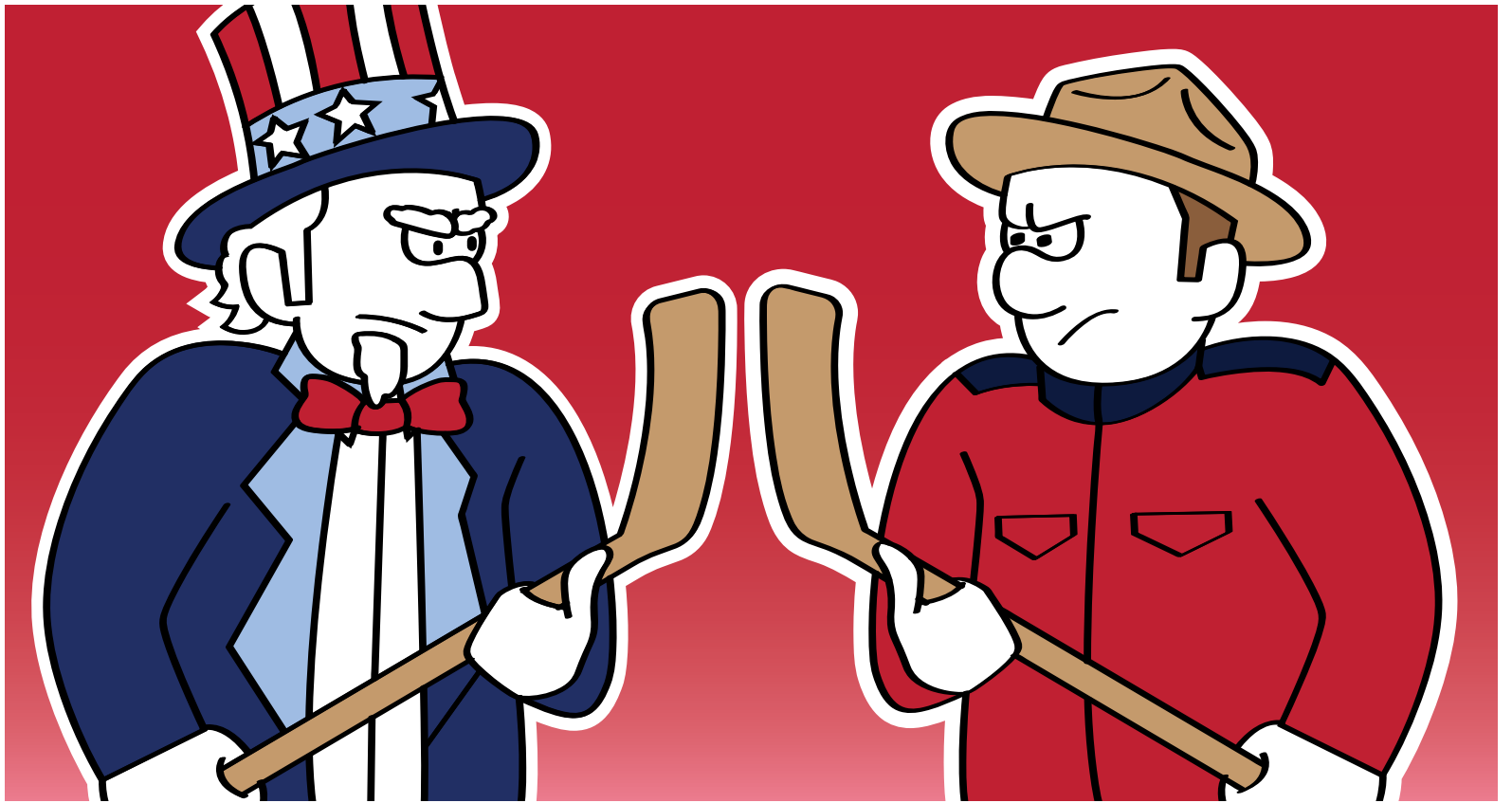
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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

The politics of hockey

Both U.S. hockey fans and team lost the plot during 4 Nations Face-Off



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Dylan Rider
Editor in Chief

There was a certain heightened tension heading into the United States and Canada's championship game in the NHL 4 Nation Face-Off.

Not the usual one. Past tilts between the neighboring country's national teams have always been exciting and meant a little more than other contests. However, this game and its surrounding discourse soured my patriotism for the game to the point that I rooted for Canada.

Let me be clear: I'm an American, and I love this country. My disdain for political systems will never shake that. During this tournament, my hand was forced by the unnecessary American action of dragging politics into the matchup.

The rhetoric, driven by President Donald Trump, of Canada becoming a 51st state spoiled the genuine rivalry between the U.S. and Canada. A ridiculous statement in its own right has no room in sports, let alone the political sphere.

Before we get into Thursday's championship game, there's some important context. The United States' 3-1 win over Canada on Feb. 15 gave way to American chauvinism. How could it not?

Three fights in nine seconds. Another political backdrop is booing each other's national anthems. A 3-1 victory over Canada. In hockey. We beat them at their own game.

The stage was set for a great game there, and that's what we got. The U.S. win clinched a spot in the championship, while Canada's 5-3 victory over Finland earned them a place. Another battle between the North American hockey powerhouses.

For me, this is when everything went awry. After the 3-1 United States win, everything was amplified. The national anthem booing. The 51st state discourse. It's the call from Trump that tipped my scales.

It's a no-brainer that the president would call the team or at least send them a message. But he injected his rhetoric into the game, thus making it a political affair. Calling Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau "Governor Trudeau" in a statement before the call is absurd.

U.S. defenseman Noah Hanifin's comments made me completely apathetic to the team.

"Hopefully we can get the win tonight for our country and for Trump," Hanifin said.

Perhaps I'm overblowing that comment. Maybe I'm taking this all too seriously

and being an absolute buzz-kill.

There was so much to play for. Hanifin mentions playing for the country. That's great. There's the right reason. The team hung up in their locker room the jersey of Johnny Gaudreau, a U.S.-born hockey player who died this past offseason. Play for Gaudreau. Play for your fans. Make that known, not playing for the president.

Regardless of me overblowing the situation or not, this whole ordeal offers so much hypocrisy.

I'd take a guess and say a certain amount of the newfound attention given to the championship game isn't from new diehard hockey fans. I think the attention comes from the political right.

These conservatives complained of the over-politicization of sports in the

past. Those who thought former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick was in the wrong for making sports about something else. The same group that ascertained that athletes should just "shut up and dribble" is now spurring on absurd claims of a 51st state, no matter how much of a joke they think it is.

For those who did so, you've confirmed that you only wanted them quiet because they weren't your views. That's hypocritical.

I understand this is a generalization. I know there are small, complex thoughts that differ. I understand that some fans don't agree with the politicization and simply want to watch hockey.

These things are not lost upon me.

However, there was a political motivation for the discourse with the game. I'd ar-

gue it was a political hijacking of something that should not have to feel politics' blinding effects. We were better off watching hockey and rooting for our national teams because they are our teams and not because of a political message of acquiring another country.

The NHL 4 Nations Face-Off offered some of the best hockey the world has seen. Its nation-on-nation action isn't something we've had since the Winter Olympics.

I can only feel like we got distracted from the actual focus of the tournament by making it far more political than it needed to be. That's a shame for the level of hockey we did indeed receive.



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Rallying the crowd

Why I am saddened by the empty seats at Ferris sports



Photo by: Sam Mulder | Torch Photographer

Sporting events reflect student participation in supporting university teams, with bleachers often empty or students leaving events halfway through.

Devin Wardrop
Freelance Reporter

I've been going to sports stadiums and arenas since I was little, and my favorite part of those experiences

isn't the games themselves, even though I love them.

It's the environment and the fans that I love. The rowdy fans cheer for their team and cause the stadium to erupt when something excit-

ing happens.

Now that I'm a college student, I try and go to as many home Ferris games as possible. I'm slightly disappointed at how few people attend the games, which in turn causes

the environment not to be what I believe it should be. Opposing teams visit us, and they aren't met with boos from our fans, because there aren't many fans there.

College football is the sta-

ple of Saturdays and college kids, who either love football or have nothing better to do, pack the stands and the student section behind the end zone to cheer on the Bulldogs. At least until halftime. As the season went on, Ferris kept winning, leading to them winning the national championship.

Volleyball is a sport that I didn't know much about coming into college, and after going to a few matches, I found that it's a very entertaining sport. The crowd is always filled when the team is on a winning streak.

This season, Ferris continued to win, leading to their undefeated regular season and having home-court advantage up until the Elite Eight, where they lost. In the last few regular season home games and the playoffs, the arena was packed, and with every point Ferris won, the crowd cheered and chanted.

It's disheartening to see students only stand by our teams when those teams are doing well. Obviously, it makes sense that the teams have a better turn out when they're doing well, but as students, we should stand by our teams regardless.

There are much fewer attendees at Ferris' games than possible. Men's basketball games pack the stadium a little more, but there are still a lot of empty seats at those games.

For the first few games, Ferris hockey would put people in the seats, but once the team started to struggle,

fewer students went to the games, and fewer stayed for its entirety, leaving family and a select few students to cheer on the Bulldogs.

I think there are a few reasons why students aren't going to sporting events. One main one is that not everyone on this campus likes sports. As a lifelong, die-hard sports fan who plans to get a job in sports, I tend to think that everyone likes sports like I do, but ultimately, that is not the case.

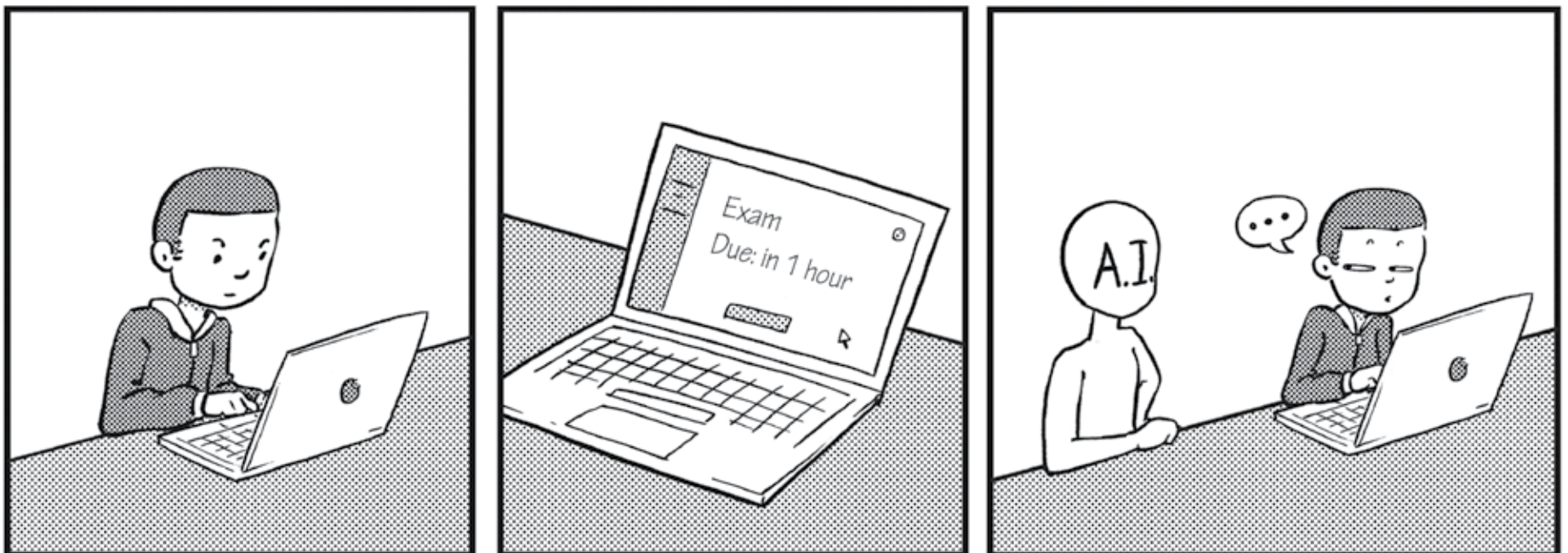
Another reason is that people either have class or work at these times and can't go to games because they have other and better priorities. Certain classes are later in the day, and they take attendance, so skipping these classes for a game isn't allowed.

Why are people not going to hockey games? Hockey is the only sport we play in DI, while the other sports are DII.

It might have something to do with the fact that the team struggled this year, as I mentioned above, as well as struggling the past few years. They won their first two games in an overtime shootout, but after that, they went 6-12 to end 2024, and some of those losses were by three or more goals. Now that head coach Bob Daniels is retiring, there could be some changes in the future.

Basketball and hockey playoffs are almost here, and the Bulldogs need everyone there.

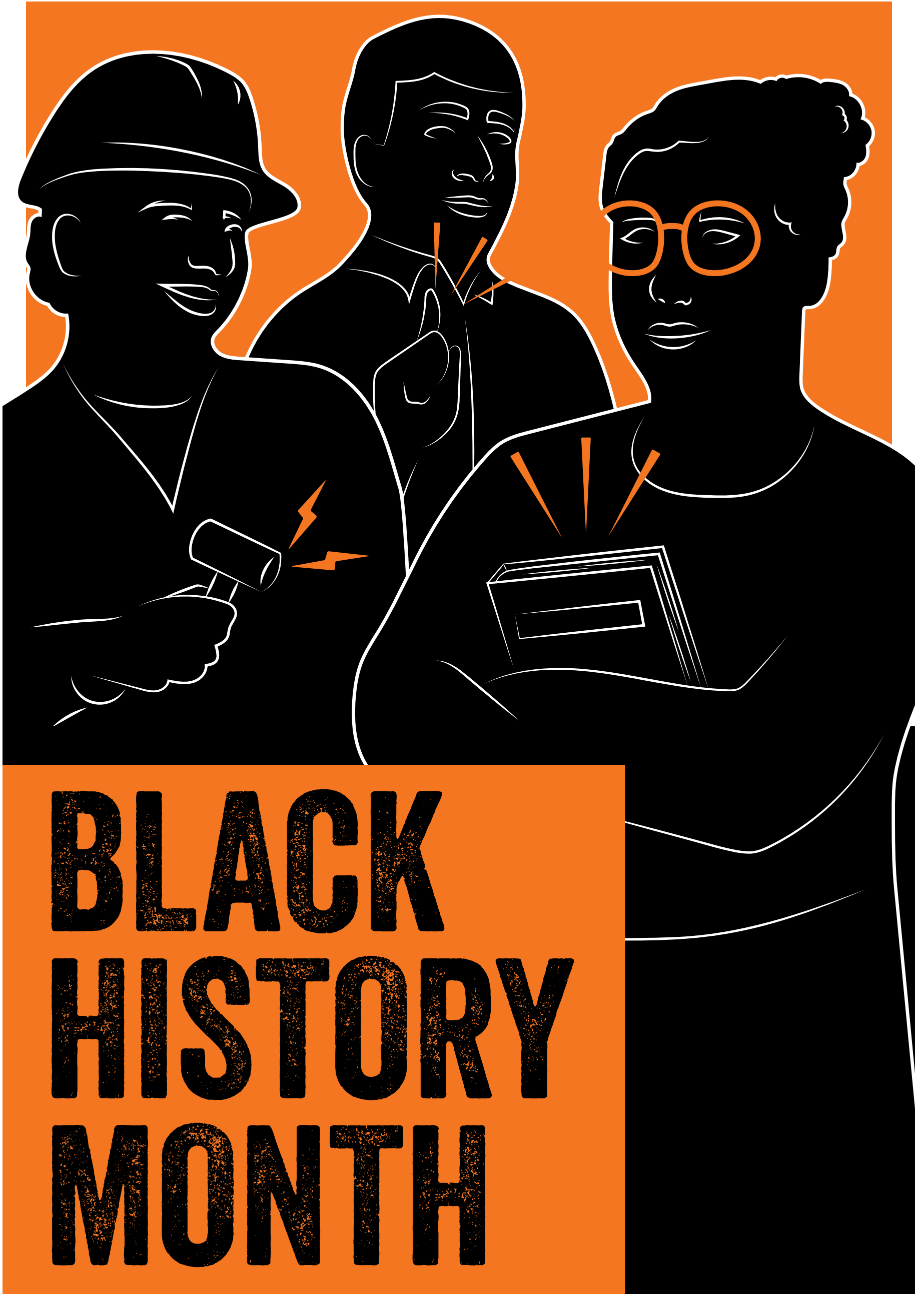
Exam buddy



Comic by: Blake Flanery | Cartoonist

Special Editions

Caden Hofmann | Special Editions Editor | Hofmanc2@ferris.edu



“I am always amazed at the stories I hear about various African Americans who were trendsetters for so many people. Their incredible lives show us examples of endurance, courage and leadership, and in some instances, against oppositional forces who did not want to see them succeed. I am forever impressed and grateful.”

- Dr. Bill Pink, president of Ferris State University



Travis Hicks breaks through

Ferris alum reflects on career in media as a Black journalist



Photo courtesy of Travis Hicks

Ferris alumni Travis Hicks is a news anchor and reporter covering various sporting events for FOX 47 since he started in May 2022.

Caden Hofmann Special Editions Editor

Travis Hicks' journey as a sports journalist has not been easy. Just like many Black journalists who have paved the way, nothing was handed to him.

Hicks is a Ferris State alum who has been working with FOX 47 as a sports and news reporter and anchor, covering many sports in the Lansing area.

Hicks began his education at Rochester University in Rochester, Mich. During his first year, he was dismissed from the university due to poor grades. He thought that was the end of his academic career.

“I was working at Kerby's Koney Island, I thought there was no way I was going back to college,” Hicks said. “I had bad grades and I was partying too much, but I listened to what my grandfather told me before he passed away and went to get my degree.”

Hick's grandfather is the main reason he is in the world of sports journalism. Before he passed away in 2019, he would tell Hicks how his dream for him was to be on TV, reporting and interviewing people. Hicks was able to combine his love for sports with the passions that were sparked by his grandfather.

After enrolling at Ferris in the fall of 2019, he spent time as a sports reporter for the Ferris State athletic department, covering various sports and even becoming the first student to host an episode of the Ferris Sports Update.

After applying to over 700 jobs near the end of college, he was offered a position at FOX 47 as a producer and later become an on-air talent reporting and anchoring for sports and news.

Coming to Ferris was a shift for Hicks, but a good one. After growing up in Oak Park, Michigan, Ferris introduced him to a very diverse culture on campus. This

amount of diversity shaped how he would interact in the workforce.

“As a kid from metro Detroit, going to Ferris State was the best thing for me. I met people of different races and that allowed me to use those real-life experiences I had and implement that into the workforce,” Hicks said. “I just try to be a friend to the community; there's different conversations for different people. I walk into the room and make myself comfortable and don't treat anybody differently. For me, being able to connect with people and getting them to trust me is huge.”

Being in media as a Black person, where it is primarily white people, can be difficult.

“Sometimes as a Black person, you aren't presented with the same opportunities as other people,” Hicks said. “When I got to FOX, they told me that I wouldn't be able to be on-air for a whole year. I felt like I wasn't getting a fair shot. I worked hard for three months and secured a spot on air. At first, I tried to blame it all on race but then I realized if I work harder, they won't have a choice but to give me that opportunity.”

Being an attendee at the National Association of

Black Journalists convention to connect with people in situations similar to Hicks has allowed him to connect with and network with some of his biggest idols.

Hicks said the NABJ allowed him to meet people from all over the country and people that come from many different walks of life.

The motivation and hunger that was instilled in Hicks after being in a directionless place when he was dismissed from Rochester fuels him in his journey. That feeling guides him into trying to fulfill his dream of being a sports reporter for ESPN in the future.

The importance of Black labor

Defining and signifying the social processes



Graphic by: Hailey Nye and Harmony Goodman | Production Team

Diane Jackson
Guest Writer

My name is Diane Jackson. I am an African American adjunct faculty member here at Ferris State. I teach sociology, and this is my eighth year in this capacity. The Torch Staff has asked me to write a piece on Black Labor. I find it ironic that during Black History Month, in these postmodern times, we live in, Ferris continues to pursue their values in its history and commitment to learning. So, I will begin this article with a definition of what labor is and why learning about Black labor is important.

The sociological definition of labor is a social activity that is physical, emotional, economic and natural. Labor will always have some division type to who has power and who lacks power. I must point out that there is always a hierarchy in labor: those who control it and those who are controlled by it. It is the classic Marxist ideology that people in positions of power exploit those with less power.

Now that I have explained the general concept of labor, this article focuses on Black labor, which means discussing how African Americans have contributed to the United States. There has been a slew of ways Black labor was managed in our country from slavery to the civil rights movement. Below are just a few.

In each type of social pro-

cess, I would like to point out one outstanding African American you may or may not have heard about.

Slavery: Isaac Myers created the Colored Caulkers Trade Union Society, along with other societies that promoted a “fair chance... to have the highest rate of wages that our labor is worth.”

Industrialization: A. Philip Randolph, one of the greatest Black labor leaders in U.S. history has been quoted as saying, “Freedom is never granted: It is won. Justice is never given: It is exacted. Freedom and justice must be struggled for by the oppressed of all lands and races...”

Organized Labor: Hattie Canty empowered workers and fought for fair wages in the Culinary Workers Union in Las Vegas, “No Contract, No Peace”

Civil Rights: Bayard Rustin was one of Martin Luther King Jr.’s closest advisors who oversaw putting together the march on Washington in 1963 that focused on pay equity and equal rights.

“We are all one. And if we don’t know it, we will learn it the hard way.” —Bayard Rustin.

Ferris has a rich tradition of helping people succeed by helping its employees and, most importantly, students overcome barriers to success. We continue to do so by following our values and building our Bulldog community.

Types of social processes

How social processes influenced African American labor in the U.S.

Slavery: Enslaved Africans were forced to work in agriculture.

Industrialization: Black workers powered the economic and social change from agricultural work to manufacturing in the United States.

Organized labor: Black workers formed unions to improve working conditions and fight discrimination.

Civil rights: Black workers took part in the civil rights movement, including the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963.

Graphic by: Hailey Nye and Harmony Goodman | Production Team

Bridging the past to our Bulldog future

How African American pioneers continue to drive Ferris forward

Kasey Thompson
Guest Writer

Historically, African Americans have faced systemic challenges that aimed to marginalize their contributions to the U.S. labor force. However, despite enduring segregation, discrimination and wage disparities, the African American labor force has transformed obstacles into opportunities.

Many African American inventors, often unsung heroes, have laid the groundwork for the breakthroughs we sometimes overlook or may unconsciously take for granted today. At Ferris, their contributions are rooted within each of our colleges, providing both inspiration and practical applications for all students, staff and faculty. Here, we honor seven remarkable African Americans whose legacies are foundational to our university's mission.

Charles R. Drew: College of Health Professions

Drew's groundbreaking blood banking and plasma preservation discoveries fundamentally transformed emergency medicine and surgical procedures. By devising more efficient methods for collecting, processing and storing blood, he created the blueprint for today's blood donation and transfusion services—an essential component of healthcare worldwide.

Frederick McKinley Jones: College of Pharmacy

Jones' invention of mobile refrigeration systems forever changed the transportation and storage of perishable goods—an advance that remains vital for pharmaceutical distribution and medical supply chains today. Jones' refrigeration models help to understand the fundamentals of thermodynamics, cooling system design and sensor-based temperature regulation. His pioneering

approach to maintaining consistent temperatures informs modern pharmaceutical practices, protecting patient health and saving lives.

Granville T. Woods: College of Engineering Technology

With over 50 U.S. patents, Woods transformed railway communication and electrical systems, laying the groundwork for our modern infrastructure. Woods's patents and innovations directly impact industries that rely on optimizing power distribution within networks and serve as a guide in developing more efficient manufacturing and robotics solutions. His legacy remains a guiding force in sustainable energy research and intelligent system design.

Marie Maynard Daly: College of Arts, Sciences and Education

Daly's pioneering research in biochemistry not only shattered glass ceilings but also redefined our understanding of human physiology by, most notably, identifying cholesterol metabolism and its connection to heart disease. She helped establish the biochemical link between diet, cholesterol levels and cardiovascular health. Her research provided critical insights into how dietary fats influence the risk of developing heart disease, reshaping nutritional guidelines and spurring the development of cholesterol-lowering medications.

Mark Dean: College of Business

A trailblazer in computer engineering, earning three of nine PC patents for being the co-creator of the IBM personal computer, Dean's role in developing personal computing and color display technology paved the way for a digitally driven global economy. Today, students in the College of Business

engage with information systems and digital marketing technologies that are possible because of Dean's foundational work.

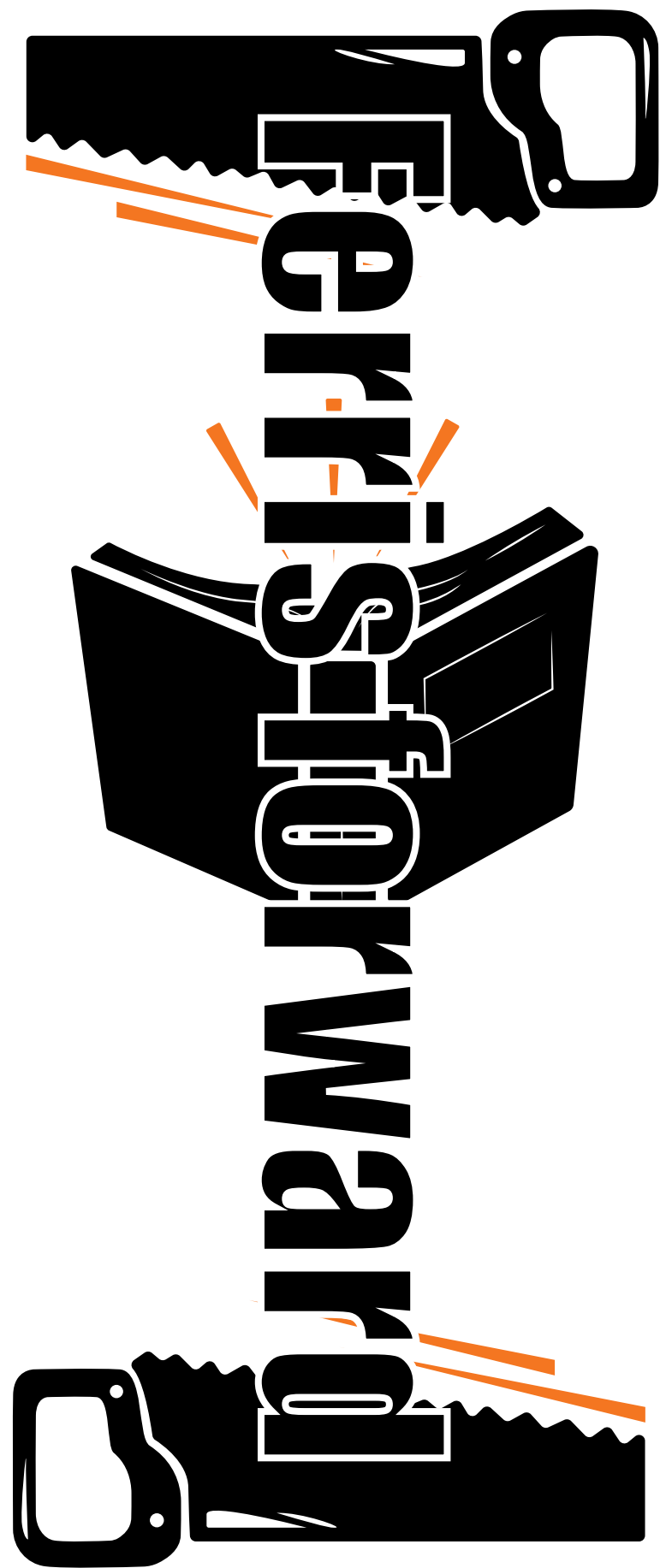
Patricia Bath: Michigan College of Optometry

Bath's invention of the laser cataract treatment revolutionized eye care, drastically reducing patient recovery times and improving surgical outcomes. Bath's legacy is woven into curricula emphasizing minimally invasive surgical methods and patient-centered care. Bath's contributions continue to shape the approach to diagnosing and treating ocular conditions.

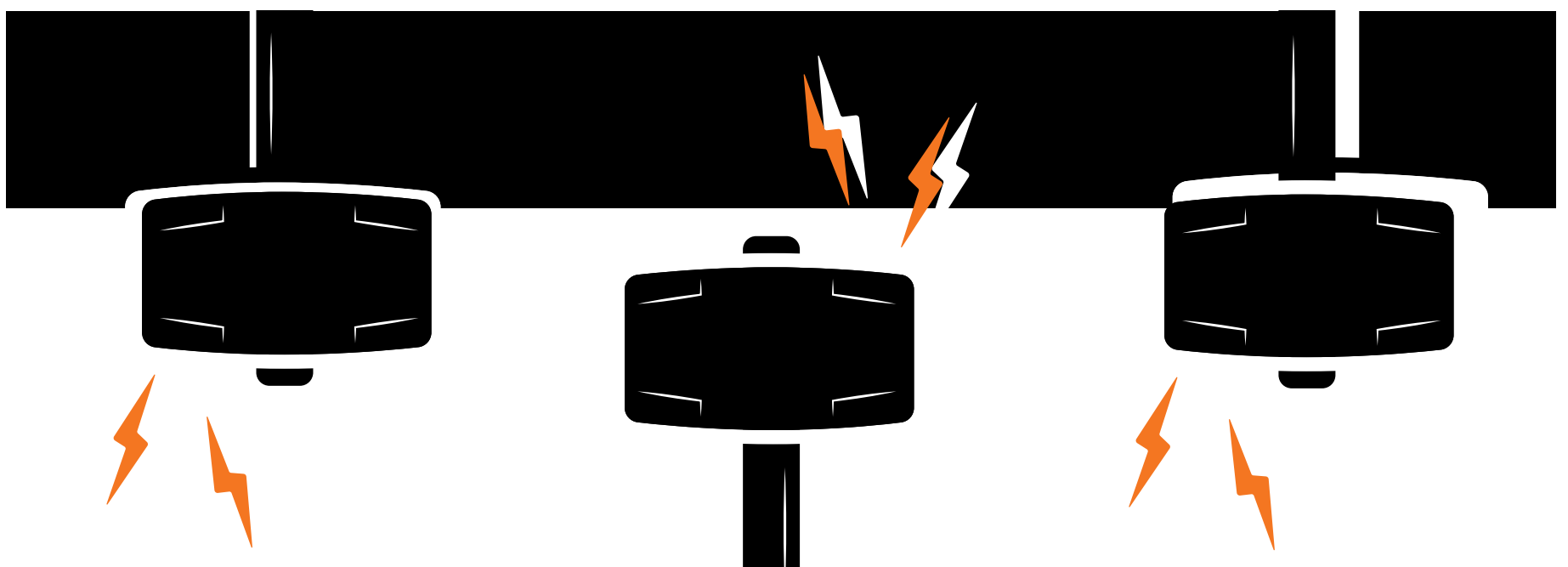
Valerie Thomas: Kendall College of Art and Design

Thomas' creation of the illusion transmitter—a device designed to transfer three-dimensional images—has profoundly impacted how artists conceive and present visual narratives. Her invention laid the groundwork for immersive media installations, augmented reality exhibits and interactive sculptures. By studying her methods, future designers learn to merge art with cutting-edge tech, creating experiences that challenge the boundaries of viewer engagement and creative storytelling.

Through these stories of invention and perseverance, we see that the contributions of African American innovators in the U.S. labor force have modern-day impacts. Their legacies shape our academic programs, inspire our research and drive the spirit of innovation across Ferris State University. In every lab, lecture hall and project space, the pioneering work of Charles R. Drew, Frederick McKinley Jones, Granville T. Woods, Marie Maynard Daly, Mark Dean, Patricia Bath and Valerie Thomas continues to inform and empower Ferris' community of leaders, thinkers and creators.



Graphic by: Hailey Nye and Harmony Goodman | Production Team



Graphic by: Hailey Nye and Harmony Goodman | Production Team

Culture

Blase Gapinski | Culture Editor | gapinsb@ferris.edu

A taste of the world

Ferris celebrates the 35th annual International Festival of Cultures



Photo by: Shaunti'ara Reynolds | Torch Photographer

The International Festival of Culture occurs every spring and features various cuisines, dresswear and traditional dances from around the world put on by Ferris students.

Max Sorek
Freelance Reporter

While snow fell on Feb. 23, the Ferris community celebrated the 35th International Festival of Cultures in the David Eisler Center ballrooms.

Volunteers and staff dressed in traditional clothing mingled with students and families. The samples of cultural foods were accompanied by various events like a piñata and dancing.

The festival offered interactive activities for attendees to engage with, such as traditional games and educational displays. In the game corner, several types of traditional games from other countries could be played by

attendees. Student-made posters and displays lined the hallway outside the ballroom, providing facts about the various countries.

The festival, sponsored by the college's Office of the President, is popular and gathers a large crowd yearly. The fact that it coincided with Family and Friends Weekend allowed students' families to join the festivities. The "travel" theming provided an entertaining background for an international festival.

A volunteer from the Hispanic Culture Center Massiel Calderon dressed her daughters and herself in clothing representing their Dominican culture.

"I think it's a great time

for Ferris to showcase diversity in other countries from around the world. And what better way to say that than through food," Calderon said.

Sharing cultural foods is a simple way to bring together a community. For 10 dollars, you could receive a punch card of 10 samples, making it affordable for students and large groups.

Computer information systems junior Lucy Tran enjoyed being able to experience familiar foods from home.

"I'm from Vietnam and this festival reminds me of my culture and the food is much better than the Rock Café," Tran said.

Celebrations of culture

provide an opportunity for intercultural exchange and understanding. The entire Big Rapids community can get involved with this event. The large variety of dishes offered allows attendees to connect with different cultures.

Each meal tells a story and represents a piece of our identity. Without these foods, cultural festivals would lose their authenticity and depth.

Sharing that feeling of unity amongst others can help beat late winter blues and midterm studying stress. For some, the food offered a sense of comfort and gave attendees a chance to experience dishes they may share with family at home.

Radiography sophomore Sarah Henry knows that feeling all too well.

"My sister makes a lot of food from other cultures and it feels like I'm eating her food again," Henry said.

The festival fosters unity and learning within the community. By experiencing the new foods, the community can gain a greater appreciation for diversity and learn more about our global community.

The International Festival of Cultures offers a unique experience to students who would otherwise not be exposed to other cultures. At a dollar a sample, this event was an affordable taste of international culture. It

served as a fantastic way to experience part of another's heritage.

These immersive events showcase a variety of traditions, such as dancing, music, food and art. From colorful costumes to lively performances, there was something for everyone to enjoy. In a world where cultural understanding is more important than ever, events like the International Festival of Cultures offer us a chance to bridge divides and celebrate what makes each of us unique.

Big Rapids' 18th Festival of the Arts

Connecting the community through culture and art



Graphic by: Harmony Goodman | Production Manager

Tate Zellman
Freelance Reporter

The Festival of the Arts celebrates its 18th year with over 75 events, uniting the Big Rapids community through concerts, workshops and performances focused on creativity and health.

Besides hosting concerts and performances, this year's festival has offered events exploring the relationship between the arts and the public's well-being.

From concerts and workshops to performances and hands-on activities, the festival strengthens the bond between Ferris and the city, offering a platform for both residents and artists to connect, collaborate and share in the cultural experience.

The festival board members include people from the Ferris and Big Rapids communities.

English professor Roxanne Cullen has been with the festival for around 15 years and was added to the board as an Artworks representative. She finds the festival important to both communities.

"It is a wonderful collab-

oration between the city and the university," Cullen said. "There is a symbolic relationship between the city and the university. The more vibrant the city is, the easier it is for the university to attract quality students, faculty and employees. The more robust the university is, the more resources are available to the city. The more we work together, the better for everyone and the festival is a prime example of that."

Events for the festival either take place at the university or somewhere in the city of Big Rapids. The concerts commonly occur at the university's auditorium, high schools, or middle schools. Immanuel Lutheran Church held a concert for Phoebe White in late January so she could perform for the community.

Music professor and Director of Instrumental Concert Ensembles Richard Scott Cohen is a founding member of the festival. He has found that the festival has expanded due to the board's motivation to seek as many events as possible.

"We keep trying to diversi-

fy everything. For the month of February, we try to have one event per day. Some of the events are ideas that we come up with and we find people to do them, but other events are already happening in town," Cohen said.

The festival has also included events that feature students from Big Rapids High School. They've had a band concert and a choir concert and the theatre department presented a one-act comedy that was held for two straight evenings.

"The Big Rapids Middle School had a concert on Wednesday, Feb. 19," Cohen said. "Since they were doing that during February, we'd incorporate them into the festival. If something's happening in the community during February and we find out about it, we'll try and include everything."

Big Rapids community member Mira Brew is the festival treasurer. Brew's involvement in the community has always been important to her, so she was excited to take on the role of helping the organization.

"I would say our main goal

as a board is to bring the community together through art," Brew said. "Whether it be a cookie decorating class, a puppet show for the entire family or an orchestra concert. We want to give people something that sparks their interest, something that they can look forward to."

Brew also expressed the importance of finding the performers. It is just as much of an opportunity for the performers as is for the community.

"Not only that, but we want to give the local artists and performers an opportunity to showcase their talents as well," Brew said.

The Festival of the Arts will continue wrapping up with events until March 2. These include an FSU Jazz Band concert, a film screening of "Black Barbie," a Paxton/Spangler Band concert and more. The board members of the Festival of the Arts are willing to hear students' ideas for next year's festival.

Heard on Campus

"I'm a man so obviously I'm not a lesbian but it's whatever"

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Unleashing voices

A night of open-word expression



Photo by: Shaunti'ara Reynolds | Torch Photographer

Digital animation and game design senior and Black Student Union President Jaylen Woods reads during the Open Mic Night in front of his peers.

Grace Heethuis
Freelance Reporter

The Black Student Union celebrated creativity and culture with an Open Mic Night through performances that highlighted artistic expression.

On Thursday, Feb. 20, the Black Student Union hosted an Open Mic Night at Rankin Stage in the David Eisler Center. The event featured a spoken word group called The Grios, based in Detroit.

The Grios is a group that travels around performing spoken word poetry. They are very passionate about sharing their experiences of the world, particularly through spoken word.

One member of The Grios Jaylen Woods is a digital animation and game design senior.

Several members of The Grios shared their spoken word pieces, as did many students. Between members of The Grios, students were given time to share their poetry and any other art form they wanted.

The Grios member Robert Cohen is a graduate of Ferris. Cohen previously spent time as an educator but now performs spoken word. Cohen wrote his debut book "It's Just A Phase" as a freshman

at Ferris.

After the event concluded, Cohen revealed his inspiration for writing poetry.

"[My inspiration is] really just my life stories and things that I feel need to be talked about, but also spoken about in a positive manner," Cohen said.

For Cohen and many artists on campus, poetry is a vehicle for sharing their experiences and knowledge with the world.

"So rather it be a combination of things that I've lived or things that I've experienced, it also is a culmination of existence. A lot of my poetry comes from the spectrum of existing," Cohen said.

Open Mic Night boasted a high-energy atmosphere, offering a safe space for any artists who wanted to share their work, regardless of experience.

Many pieces performed at the event focused on the Black experience, with several students sharing poems in honor of Black History Month.

Poetry wasn't the only art form that was present at the event.

Big Rapids High School junior Jakail Strickland shared some of his original poetry and sang "Stay" by Rihanna.

Strickland has recently shared his work at other

events celebrating Black History Month too.

Social work sophomore Semmon Robertson and social work junior Bryann Hill sang a duet of "Lean on Me" by Bill Withers.

Robertson is currently the vice president of the Black Student Union.

Earlier in the night, Robertson also shared some of her original songs. She also reflected on what writing music means in her own life.

"I just started writing music this past summer. When I write, I write for a reason," Robertson said. "And so I hope that when I write, people understand and hear what I'm saying and that I can touch somebody."

Many students, much like Robertson, place a lot of value on art forms such as music and poetry.

Those who participated in Open Mic Night were offered a space where they could share anything they wanted with people willing to celebrate their art with them.

Chemistry sophomore and treasurer of the Black Student Union AhNaviya Knox talked about why the event was put on.

"We thought this would be a pretty good event. It's something that hasn't really been done on campus. It was

really interesting and a good thing to do for Black History Month," Knox said.

The event gave voice to several artists who haven't performed their original pieces.

It especially gave voice to Black artists who shared their experiences through

poetry and music.

Performing and hearing poetry and music from other artists gives people a deep sense of belonging and makes them feel understood and validated in their experiences.

Open Mic Night was a great way to celebrate Black His-

tory Month and gave voices to those who otherwise may not be given the opportunity to share their stories with the world.

Bryann Hill is a former Torch employee.

Sports

Connor Grypma | Sports Editor | grypmac@ferris.edu

Bob Daniels unphased by final home series

Retiring hockey head coach remains focused on team's finish



Graphic by: Hailey Nye | Production Assistant

Dylan Rider
Editor in Chief

After 33 years as head coach of Ferris Hockey, Bob Daniels' final home series of his career is steadily approaching.

Following their split in Houghton against Michigan Tech last weekend, the Bulldogs return home for their last series of the regular season against the Northern Michigan Wildcats.

One could expect after an

over-three-decade career, there would be strong emotions heading into the last stretch in front of the home crowd. For Daniels, he's laser-focused on the team, where they'll end up in the standings and who they'll face in the first round of the CCHA playoffs.

"Maybe it's bad or short-sighted on my part, but I haven't thought about it at all," Daniels said. "We're trying to place as high in the standings as we can. I still

have high hopes for our team this year. I like where we're at and how we're playing. We're winning games now, so my attention is really on that."

The university is honoring its long-time coach by dubbing the final weekend "Bob Daniels Weekend." Saturday night will feature a ceremony to honor Daniels alongside assistant coaches Mark Kaufman, Drew Famulak and Dave Cencer.

Saturday night's celebration also includes the pro-

gram's senior night for the team's seven seniors, which Daniels wishes to be a focus too.

"Over the years, it's been fun to watch the guys get on the ice with their parents and siblings and girlfriends and have that moment before the game," Daniels said. "I see how important it is to those families. I just think anybody would say 'Maybe we'll all share that together in that last game.' Me as well as them. I just want to

make sure that's highlighted as well."

Daniels recorded a milestone marker earlier this season, collecting his 500th career win. The Bulldogs' bench boss has accumulated 509 wins so far, ranking him 16th overall in wins throughout NCAA history.

The Bulldogs season doesn't end after their series with the Wildcats, as they will play an undecided opponent in the first round of the CCHA playoffs. More than likely,

Ferris will go on the road for that best-of-three series.

Daniels, who is excited about retirement, thinks any sort of reflection on this season or his career won't come until after the final game.

"I don't think the magnitude or the realization will hit me until after the playoffs. Like when the season's completely done. And then, I don't know. I'll hit the golf course," Daniels joked.

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Hockey takes on final homestand

Bulldogs hope to end season strong before CCHA playoffs



Archive photo by: Sam Mulder|Torch Photographer

Regardless of Ferris' regular season finish, they will play an undecided opponent in the CCHA playoffs.

Nolan Matthews
Sports Reporter

Coming off a hard-fought win on Saturday against the Michigan Tech Huskies, the Bulldogs return home to face off against the Northern Michigan Wildcats for the final two games of the regular season.

The Bulldogs (12-18-2, 11-13 in CCHA) will be taking on the last-place Wildcats (5-26-1, 4-19-1 in CCHA) in hopes of finishing off the regular season on a high note before heading into the CCHA Mason Cup playoffs.

Freshman forward Jack Silich is excited about the challenge of the CCHA playoffs, extending his confidence that the Bulldogs can get wins against tough

teams.

"As a team, we are game planning the same way we would for any other team," Silich said. "We have shown that we have the capability to beat the top teams in our conference, so we are going to stick with what we have been doing all season."

In this final homestand, Ferris will be honoring long-time head coach Bob Daniels in his final home games of his storied career, as earlier this season he announced he would be retiring following the season's end after spending 33 years as the Bulldogs' bench boss.

The Bulldogs will also honor the seven seniors set to leave the program after the season's conclusion on Saturday. This includes defense-

man Nico Devita, forwards Nick Nardecchia, Jacob Dirks, Kaleb Ergang, Zach Faremouth and forward Nick Grimaldi, alongside goalie Noah West.

Ferris is returning home from a series split against the Huskies. The Bulldogs took a crushing 6-1 loss in game one last Friday, then clawed back in game two and scored three unanswered goals after being down 2-0 after the first period to win on Saturday by a score of 3-2.

The Bulldogs have won six of their last 10 games in hopes of securing a home playoff game, but after back-to-back losses against Lake Superior State and Michigan Tech that is no longer possible. Ferris could earn between zero and six points

this weekend, placing them somewhere between fifth and eighth place.

Ferris looks to keep their offense rolling after scoring three or more goals in five of their last six games, the offense is led by sophomore forward Cole Burtch (7-15-22) with junior forward and Hobey Baker nominee Caiden Gault (11-8-19) sitting alongside him.

In the crease, the Bulldogs are led by West, who has started 30 games this season, logging a .903 save percentage, while sitting in third place in the CCHA in saves per game with 28.61.

The Wildcats, who sit in last place in the CCHA, after already losing twice to the Bulldogs earlier this season, are led by the freshman

forward duo Jakub Altrichter (3-14-17) and Grayden Slipec (8-8-16). Northern Michigan is anchored down in the goalie position by senior Ryan Ouellette who has a .920 save percentage but also sports the second-worst goals-against average in the CCHA with 2.90.

Despite posting a 12-18-2 record so far this season, the Bulldogs have already outpaced their finish to last year when they finished last place in the CCHA alongside a 10-24-2 record.

Freshman defenseman Logan Heroux was incredibly positive about his first season as a Bulldog, and he's proud of how the team has played this season.

"I have nothing but positive things to say about my

first season as a Bulldog," Heroux said. "Despite not having the record we all may want, I'm still proud of how hard we worked to get to this point, and we'll continue to work until the season is over, this has been one of the most fun seasons I have ever had on and off the ice."

The Bulldogs return home to Ewigleben Arena to play Northern Michigan on Friday, Feb. 28 at 7:07 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 29 at 6:07 p.m. The CCHA Mason Cup quarterfinals will begin on Friday, March 7, where Ferris will play in a best-of-three series, the opponent is yet to be determined.

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Basketball on the road for season finale

Bulldogs play two more conference games before GLIAC tournament



Photo by: Sam Mulder | Torch Photographer

Senior guard Kenzie Bowers is averaging 10.4 points per game in the 2024-2025 season.



Photo by: Abe Kraus | Torch Photographer

Junior Mykel Bingham scored 10 points during the game against Purdue Northwest in his 16 minutes of play.

Devin Wardrop
Freelance Reporter

With two games remaining in their regular season, Ferris women's and men's basketball take on the Wayne State Warriors and the Saginaw Valley State Cardinals.

Both Bulldog teams have solidified their spots in the

GLIAC tournament while both Cardinal teams are currently sitting in the final playoff spots of the contest.

Women's basketball

The Bulldogs (18-8, 12-5 in GLIAC) come into the final games with a 4-3 record in February. Since standout senior guard Kadyn Blanchard

went down with a torn ACL following the 83-61 loss to rival Grand Valley earlier this year, junior guard Mia Riley has stepped up and emerged as the Bulldogs' leading scorer. Riley averages 14.9 points per game this season, which is third in the GLIAC. Meanwhile, senior guard Kenzie Bowers has

been facilitating on offense, leading Ferris in assists per game with 4.3, which is second in the conference. Riley sits close behind her with 3.3 per game.

Head coach Kurt Westendorp highlighted the momentum from the past couple of wins Ferris is on.

"We have some momentum right now," Westendorp said. "It's nice to play these two games at home, in front of our fans, but now we got to go on the road for the next two, so we have to make sure we're bringing that energy. Saginaw Valley is also having an excellent year. They're above .500 and it was a great game the first time we played. So, we'll enjoy these wins, but then we need to refocus ourselves, go on the road, and have that momentum into the postseason."

Saginaw Valley (13-13, 7-11 in GLIAC) comes into the game with a 3-4 record in February and is 7-9 in the new year. The Cardinals have two players atop the leaderboards for points per game. Leading them is sophomore forward Megan McCalla with 16.7 points per game, first in the conference.

These two teams last played each other at the start of the new year on Jan. 2 at Jim Wink Arena, with Ferris winning 70-56.

Meanwhile, Wayne State is led by senior forward Shea Tripp, who averages 13.4 points per game. The Warriors sport a 16-10 record this season but fell to the Bulldogs 82-65 this January.

Men's basketball

Ferris (23-6, 13-5 in GLIAC) comes into the game with a 5-2 record in February. Senior guard Ethan Erickson leads the Bulldogs in scoring with 16.5 points per game, which is fifth in the GLIAC. Junior forward Nathan Claerbaut leads Ferris with 6.7 rebounds per game. Claerbaut also leads the GLIAC in blocks per game with 2.3.

Erickson credited the whole team for his scoring output.

"The points matter for us scoring-wise but it's everyone," Erickson said. "We're averaging around 80 points a game. As long as we stick around there, whoever's scoring can score. Our whole team can score so it's just about getting as many shots as we need."

Saginaw Valley (10-16, 6-12 in GLIAC) brings a four-game losing streak into the contest. The Cardinals are 2-5 in February and are 5-11 in the new year. Red-shirt senior guard Toodles Seal leads his team with

17.4 points per game and sits third in the GLIAC. Senior guard Freddie McIntosh sits behind him and is 12th in the conference with 15.2 points per game. McIntosh is tied for first in the GLIAC with 2.9 three-pointers per game with Erickson.

Head coach Andy Bronkema stressed the importance of playing well near the end of the season.

"The games down the stretch are very important to continue to build your resume to try to get the highest seed that you can," Bronkema said. "It's the time of year where people are playing well and there's not a lot of secrets so everybody knows everything about everybody which means the games are a grind."

These two teams last played on Jan. 2 at Jim Wink Arena, and the Bulldogs came out victorious, 83-72.

The Bulldogs face Wayne State on Thursday, Feb. 27, before playing Saginaw Valley at O'Neill Arena on Saturday, March 1, at 1 p.m. for women and 3 p.m. for men. This is the last game before the GLIAC Tournament starts on Wednesday, March 5.

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