



## NEWS RELEASE

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(Assistant Director of News Services)

### **Ferris Homecoming offers ‘something for everyone’**

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris State University campus community is gearing up for Homecoming 2005, which begins Sunday, Oct. 9, and runs through Oct. 15.

And, as organizers fine-tune the last-minute details, they predict 2005 will be a bigger year than previous Homecoming celebrations.

The week’s kick-off activity, the Bed Sheet Banner contest, already has doubled its participation with registered student organization and residence hall members hanging 17 banners around campus promoting this year’s theme, “Ride the Tide of Bulldog Pride.”

More entry forms turned in means more participation in the week’s activities, which is good news for organizers.

“Homecoming has always been a great way to bring together students, alumni and the Big Rapids community to celebrate Bulldog pride and we strive to carry on that tradition,” Homecoming 2005 Committee Chair Holly Atherton said.

“Homecoming is more than just a parade and football game. With a diverse lineup of activities throughout the week, there is bound to be something for everyone to get involved,” Atherton added.

Speaking of something to do for everyone, the next Homecoming activity in the lineup is the annual Lip Sync contest on Monday at 8 p.m. in G. Mennen Williams Auditorium. On Tuesday, the kickball tournament is being held at Top Taggart Field at 6:15 p.m. Pep games will be held on Wednesday beginning at 7 p.m. at Top Taggart Field and the traditional bonfire is on Thursday at 8:30 p.m. During the bonfire, the Homecoming king and queen candidates, as well as Ferris’ sports teams, will be introduced and a spirit rally will be held.

“Overall, I think Homecoming week will be a big success,” Director of Student Leadership and Activities Cindy Horn said. “We have an outstanding committee who has done a wonderful job putting together some great events.”

Comedian Dave Attell will be featured during this year’s concert on Friday at 8 p.m. in G. Mennen Williams Auditorium. Attell is the writer and host of “Insomniac with Dave Attell,” which is aired on Comedy Central. Tickets are \$8 for students with valid student identification and \$15 for the general public.

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The Homecoming parade will take place at noon on Saturday in downtown Big Rapids, featuring Grand Marshals Dan and Luanne Rothstein and the king and queen candidates. The parade will also include the Ferris Pep Band, bed sheet banners and floats, along with many other university-related activities and groups. At 2 p.m., the Bulldogs will take on the Northern Michigan University Wildcats at Top Taggart field.

The Homecoming Dance will conclude the week's activities on Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. The event is free and open to the public.

Ferris has an outstanding history of Homecoming traditions, dating back several decades, and this should be a memorable year for both students and alumni, Atherton said, adding, Homecoming is a great time to get all Ferris students, past and present, together to celebrate Bulldog pride and have fun.

All events this year are sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee, Student Activity fees as allocated by Student Government, Student Leadership and Activities and the Alumni Relations office.

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