

## Archive

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**From:** Sandy C Gholston  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 2:08 PM  
**To:** Archive  
**Subject:** Op/ed: "West Michigan's Thriving Hockey Community" by Ferris State University President David Eisler  
**Attachments:** david\_eisler.jpg; WCHA op-ed Final.docx

Editors,

On behalf of Ferris State University President David Eisler, I am submitting his opinion/editorial for your publishing consideration. President Eisler's op/ed is titled: "**West Michigan's Thriving Hockey Community.**" If you have any questions, please let me know and I'd be happy to try and get you answers.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sandy

Attached is a photo of Ferris State University President David Eisler

Also attached is a Microsoft Word copy of the op/ed

March 18, 2014

West Michigan's Thriving Hockey Community

By David Eisler, president, Ferris State University

West Michigan is a great hockey area. We have some of the best hockey teams in the country at the youth, high school and college levels. Last year, we followed and cheered on the Grand Rapids Griffins as they won the American Hockey League's Calder Cup.

This year we have another extraordinary hockey team at Ferris State University. Last weekend we unveiled the MacNaughton Cup awarded by the Western Conference Hockey Association for winning the regular season championship. This week we are playing in Grand Rapids, as the city hosts the WCHA Championship in the VanAndel Arena. In addition to the Ferris Bulldogs, this brings to town the Alaska-Anchorage Seawolves, Bowling Green Falcons and Minnesota State Mavericks. We are very excited to see this start of a new tradition taking root in west Michigan.

I invite you to come out and cheer for our team this Friday evening at 7 p.m. when we take on Alaska-Anchorage. With 27 victories we have more wins than any other team in the nation. This week in the Pairwise rankings we are tied for third nationally. We have an exciting team that never gives up, as witnessed by the double-overtime win that secured its place in the WCHA Championships.

In addition to the games themselves there will be a number of other events, including a WCHA “The Voice” Contest, pre-game “Sports Madness” Tailgate Party at the B.O.B., USA Hockey Coaching Workshop, Youth Hockey Shootout Competition and Purple Community game to raise cancer research funds for the Van Andel Institute. The resources that Grand Rapids has to offer, including the city’s commitment to community efforts, will be on display for everyone in attendance.

With your support the WCHA tournament can become a regular event in Grand Rapids. The WCHA tournament is an opportunity for fans to see NCAA Division I hockey played at the highest level

I hope you'll attend a game or related event. Information is available at the WCHA website, WCHA.com. For hockey fans, this is March Madness. On ice. Close to home. Go Dawgs!

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**Sandy Gholston**

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*Any use by others is strictly prohibited. (See attached file: david\_eisler.jpg) (See attached file: WCHA op-ed Final.docx)*