

FERRIS STATE IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

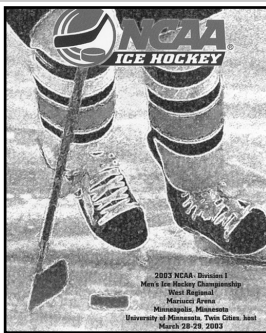
2002-03 NCAA WEST REGIONAL FINALISTS

Ferris State, the 2002-03 Central Collegiate Hockey Association Regular-Season Champions, received the program's first-ever bid to the NCAA Championship Tournament.

Bulldogs went into the NCAA West Regional at Mariucci Arena in Minneapolis, Minn., as the number two seed. Host Minnesota was the region's top seed while North Dakota was seeded third and Mercyhurst fourth.

Ferris State advanced to the West Regional finals with its 5-2 victory over North Dakota, despite being outshot 46-27. The Bulldogs claimed a 3-0 lead with 1:56 remaining in the second period on Jeff Legue's goal. The Fighting Sioux drew within 4-2 with 4:26 left in the game, but Trevor Large's empty-net goal sealed the win. Chris Kunitz picked up three assists for FSU while Derek Nesbitt and Trevor Large both had a goal and an assist in the game.

In the regional championship game, Minnesota tallied five goals in the contest's opening 20 minutes and went on to a 7-4 decision over Ferris State thus ending the Bulldogs' historic season. The Golden Gophers accounted for the game's initial three scores before FSU struck at 12:02 of the first period on a Kunitz goal. Kunitz scored again in the opening frame on a shorthander before UM answered with 1:06 left in the high-scoring period. Both teams would score one goal apiece in the remaining two periods with Ferris' coming off the sticks of Nesbitt in the second on a shortie and Phil Lewandowski early in the third period.



2003 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship, West Regional, Mariucci Arena, Minneapolis, Minnesota, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, host, March 29-28, 2003



MATT YORK

March 28, 2003 ♦ Mariucci Arena ♦ Minneapolis, Minnesota

Ferris State 5, North Dakota 2

1ST Pd.: (1) FSU, Derek Nesbitt (Chris Kunitz, Mike Kinnie), pp, 14:01
2ND Pd.: (2) FSU, Simon Mangos (Chris Kunitz, Troy Milam), pp, 15:42; (3) FSU, Jeff Legue (Derek Nesbitt, Chris Kunitz), 18:04
3RD Pd.: (1) UND, David Lundbohm (Brandon Bochenski, Matt Jones), 7:25; (4) FSU, Greg Rallo (Trevor Large), 9:11; (2) UND, Ryan Hale (Mike Prpich, Nick Fuher), 15:34; (5) FSU, Trevor Large (Phil Meyer), en, 19:42

SHOTS: North Dakota 12-14-20 - 46
 Ferris State 10-10-7 - 27

SAVES: UND-Jake Brandt, L 9-8-x - 17 40:00
 Josh Siembida x-x-5 - 5 18:50
 Empty Net x-x-0 - 0 1:10
 FSU-Mike Brown, W 12-14-18 - 44 60:00

PENALTIES: North Dakota 3/6-4/8-1/2 - 8/16
 Ferris State 3/6-6/20-1/2 - 10/28

POWER PLAYS: North Dakota 0/1-0/3-0/0 - 0/4
 Ferris State 1/2-1/1-0/0 - 2/3

TIME: 2:26 **ATT.:** 9,554 **REFEREE:** Scott Hansen

March 29, 2003 ♦ Mariucci Arena ♦ Minneapolis, Minnesota

Minnesota 7, Ferris State 4

1ST Pd.: (1) MN, Matt Koalska (Thomas Vanek), :13; (2) MN, Keith Ballard (unasst.), pp, 1:38; (3) MN, Jake Fleming (Garrett Smaagaard), 6:09; (1) FSU, Chris Kunitz (Phil Meyer), 12:02; (4) MN, Thomas Vanek (unasst.), 12:41; (2) FSU, Chris Kunitz (Derek Nesbitt), sh, 17:48; (5) MN, Matt DeMarchi (Tyler Hirsch, Barry Tallackson), pp, 18:54
2ND Pd.: (3) FSU, Derek Nesbitt (unasst.), sh, 12:43; (6) MN, Thomas Vanek (Matt Koalska); 19:31
3RD Pd.: (4), FSU Phil Lewandowski (Nick Field), 2:04; (7) MN, Jon Waibel (Garrett Smaagaard, Jake Fleming); 10:31

SHOTS: Ferris State 6-7-7 - 20
 Minnesota 25-12-12 - 49

SAVES: FSU-Mike Brown, L 20-11-11 - 42 60:00
 MN-Justin Johnson, W 4-x-x - 4 20:00
 Travis Weber x-6-6 - 12 40:00

PENALTIES: Ferris State 4/8-3/14-3/6 - 10/28
 Minnesota 1/2-2/4-1/2 - 4/8

POWER PLAYS: Ferris State 0/0-0/2-0/1 - 0/3
 Minnesota 2/3-0/2-0/3 - 2/8

TIME: 2:30 **ATT.:** 9,622 **REFEREE:** Scott Hansen



Ferris State head coach Bob Daniels addresses the media following the Bulldogs' NCAA Division I West Regional Final setback to Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minn. Joining Daniels at the post-game press conference are team captain Troy Milam and Phil Lewandowski. Ferris State concluded its best season ever as evidenced by finishing among the nation's top eight teams in the 2003-04 season.