



Ferris State Men's Basketball

March 1, 2004

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Ferris Claims GLIAC North Division Title; Tourney Home Game Up Next

FERRIS AT A GLANCE:

The Ferris State University men's basketball team will open the 2003-04 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Tournament with a quarterfinal round game this Tuesday (March 2) versus Northwood at FSU's Jim Wink Arena in Big Rapids, Mich. Tipoff is set for 8 p.m. (EST). FSU is seeded first in the North Division while NU is fourth.

GLIAC CHAMPIONS: Ferris claimed the GLIAC North Division Regular-Season Championship with a 70-61 triumph over three-time defending champion Michigan Tech Saturday (Feb. 28) before a record-crowd of 1,025 fans at Wink Arena. The Bulldogs, who surpassed the .500 mark for the first time this season at 14-13 overall, concluded regular-season play with a 14-4 league mark while nationally-ranked MTU fell to 19-6 overall and 13-5 in the GLIAC. Ferris also secured the home-court advantage throughout the league tournament.

ANOTHER LEAGUE CROWN: Ferris, which has currently won more GLIAC championships (10) than any other league member, last won a league title in 1994-95 prior to this season. FSU had not won a GLIAC crown since the league was split into two divisions in 1996-97.

GLIAC TICKET INFO: Tickets for Tuesday's GLIAC Tournament doubleheader at Wink Arena are \$8 for adults and \$2 for both Ferris State students with identification and youth up to age 18. One ticket gains admission to both games. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the FSU Athletics Ticket Office at (231) 591-2888 or will be sold at the door.

THE TOURNEY FIELD: The other quarterfinal round games include Northern Michigan (#3 seed North) at Michigan Tech (#2 seed North), Mercyhurst (#4 seed South) at Findlay (#1 seed South) along with Wayne State (#3 seed South) at Gannon (#2 seed South). Both the NMU-MTU and MC-UF games will take place Tuesday at 7 p.m. (EST) with the WSU-GU contest slated to begin at 8 p.m. (EST). The semifinals and finals will be held Friday and Saturday, March 5-6, at the site of the highest remaining seed. FSU earned the home court advantage and would host the semifinals/finals with a win on Tuesday.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Live coverage of Tuesday's GLIAC Tournament contest will be carried live by local radio station WBRN-1460 AM and can also be accessed live via the internet by clicking on the Bulldog Athletics Webcasts icon at www.ferris.edu/sports. WBRN's Bill Beckwith will handle the play-by-play coverage. Additional GLIAC Tournament coverage beyond Tuesday's game will be announced as details are available.

HUGE VICTORY: Sophomore guard Dennis Springs (Toledo, Ohio/Scott) led Ferris to its first league crown since 1994-95 by scoring 21 points and dishing out six assists in the regular-season finale versus MTU. Senior guard Willie Thomas (Columbus, Ohio/Eastmoor Academy) added 16 points including two three-pointers in the final 2:25 for the Bulldogs. The Ferris bench outscored MTU's by a 23-5 count. The victory was Ferris' sixth-straight this campaign and snapped an 11-game MTU series' winning streak.

BIG THURSDAY WIN: Ferris set up Saturday's showdown with Thursday's (Feb. 26) 69-51 league home win over Northern Michigan and MTU's 83-63 loss to Grand Valley State in Allendale, Mich. The

GLIAC TOURNEY GAME

**Northwood
(16-11, 10-8 GLIAC)
at
Ferris State
(14-13, 14-4 GLIAC)**

Tuesday, March 2
8 p.m. (EST)
Jim Wink Arena (2,400)
Big Rapids, Mich.
All times are Eastern

Bulldogs were led by Willie Thomas' game-best 17 points. Dennis Springs dished out nine assists.

THE BULLDOG TRADITION: The 2003-04 campaign marks the 76th season of Bulldog men's basketball. The program began in 1925 although Ferris did not field a team from 1942-45 due to World War II. FSU has compiled a 892-835 (.517) all-time mark. The Bulldogs have won 10 GLIAC titles, made six NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and reached the 1988 NCAA-II Elite Eight. Ferris captured a league-record four consecutive GLIAC titles from 1986-90.

LAST SEASON: Ferris State concluded the 2002-03 campaign with an 11-15 overall mark and a fourth-place 7-11 GLIAC North Division finish in head coach Bill Sall's initial season at the helm. The Bulldogs' biggest loss was 6-10 center Adam Anderson, who is presently playing in Egypt. The two-time team MVP was a three-time All-GLIAC pick.

HEAD COACH BILL SALL: A 1994 Calvin graduate, second-year FSU head coach Bill Sall previously held assistant coaching positions at Calvin (1992-95), Ferris State (1995-98) and Hillsdale (1998-02) prior to being named Ferris State's 11th head coach. The Zeeland, Mich., native served as Ferris' interim head coach for a portion of the 1995-96 campaign and led the Bulldogs to a 5-8 mark. Before joining the coaching ranks, Sall was a standout player at Calvin from 1985-90. He twice (1989-90) received second-team National Association of Basketball Coaches Division III All-America honors and led Calvin to three MIAA championships, four NCAA-III Tournament bids and the 1990 NCAA-III Final Four. Sall has a current 30-36 (.455) career mark.

BETWEEN THE LINES: "Between The Lines", a weekly television program profiling Ferris State University Athletics, airs across northern Michigan on WFQX-Fox 33 every Saturday at 3:30 p.m. (ET). The 30-minute program is hosted by Phill Mooney and produced in the studios of the University's cable Channel 7. FSU men's basketball head coach Bill Sall will make appearances throughout the season. The show is also aired locally on the University's cable Channel 7 every Tuesday (7 p.m.) and Wednesday (8 p.m.).

JIM WINK ARENA: Ferris has recorded a 20-35 (.364) overall record to date in home contests at Jim Wink Arena, including a 15-30 (.333) mark in league play. The 2,400-seat facility replaced the Old Jim Wink Arena, which was converted into the current Student Recreation Center after the 1997-98 campaign.

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE: FSU, which posted an 0-9 non-league mark this season, won its first title in nine seasons in head coach Bill Sall's second year at the helm. Prior to Sall's arrival, the Bulldogs had posted a 21-82 (.203) record in their four previous campaigns from 1998-2002. The Bulldogs won only one league game in 2001-02, which was the year before Sall arrived. Sall has guided FSU to 25 victories since his arrival.

2003-04 QUICK FACTS

Location:	Big Rapids, Mich.
Founded:	1884
Enrollment:	11,822
Nickname:	Bulldogs
Colors:	Crimson & Gold
Affiliation:	NCAA Division II
Conference:	Great Lakes Intercollegiate
President:	Dr. David L. Eisler
Athletics Director:	Tom Kirinovic
Asst. Athletics Director:	Brian Kegler
Head Trainer:	Dave Lucey, ATC
Assistant Trainer:	Tim Glover, ATC
Assistant Trainer:	Mike Blackburn, ATC
Equip. Manager:	Ben Mumah, E.M.,C.
Athletic Dep. Office:	(231) 591-2860
Athletic Dep. Fax:	(231) 591-2869
Head Coach:	Bill Sall
Alma Mater/Year:	Calvin/1994
Record at FSU/Year:	30-36/2nd
Career Record/Years:	Same
Office Phone:	(231) 591-2877
Assistant Coach:	Cory Anderson
Office Phone:	(231) 591-3820
Home Court:	Jim Wink Arena
Capacity:	2,400
2002-03 Overall Record:	11-15
2002-03 Conf. Record/Finish:	7-11/T-4th
All-Time Record:	892-835 (.516)
Letterwinners Ret./Lost:	Seven/Six
Website:	www.ferris.edu/sports

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

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BULLDOG BITES

Willie Thomas presently has 160 career made three-point field goals and is six away from reaching Aaron Nauta's (166; 1996-00) school career record.

Thomas has 91 treys this campaign and surpassed Joe Blankenship's (1992-93) school single-season mark of 72 FSU's 14 GLIAC victories to date this campaign are the school's most since the 1989-90 squad claimed the school's fourth consecutive conference title with a 14-2 league mark. The Bulldogs' 14 victories overall this season is the school's best performance since finishing 21-12 overall during the 1997-98 campaign Dennis Springs' 159 assists to date this campaign ranks as the school's third-best single-season mark Junior guard Carlton Epps (Benton Harbor) presently has 926 career points and is four away from tying Dave Swilley (930; 1980-83) for 24th place on the school's all-time scoring list. He has 64 steals to date this season and needs five more to match Day Day Smith's (69; 1997-98) school single-season record The Bulldogs' current 7-1 mark at Wink Arena this year is the program's best in the arena's five-year history Ferris was picked fourth in the 2003-04 GLIAC North Division Preseason Coaches Poll Senior co-captains Willie Thomas and Nathan Wruble (Harbor Beach) were recognized during Saturday's Senior Day activities prior to their final regular-season home games FSU's current 14-13 mark this campaign represents the fewest overall wins ever for a team winning the GLIAC men's regular-season title. The previous low was FSU's 16-9 overall record when they won the title in 1994-95.

GLIAC TOURNEY HISTORY: FSU will be making its sixth tournament appearance and first since claiming the 1997-98 tourney title. The Bulldogs, who have compiled a 4-7 (.364) overall GLIAC Tournament record to date, have not hosted a GLIAC Tournament game since 1994-95 when they lost to Hillsdale (semifinals) and Michigan Tech (consolation) at FSU's Old Jim Wink Arena. The 1994-95 season marks Ferris' only previous league tourney home games. Ferris posted a 71-55 quarterfinal-round win over Northwood (2/26/98) in the only previous tournament meeting between the two teams at Houghton, Mich.

STAYING ON CAMPUS: The GLIAC Tournament remains on campus sites this season for the second year in a row. Prior to last season, the four previous GLIAC men's and women's tournaments were held at a neutral site location, with the final three taking place at the DeltaPlex in Grand Rapids, Mich.

NCAA REGIONAL INFORMATION: The winner of this season's GLIAC Tournament will receive the league's automatic berth into the NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional Tournament slated for March 13-16 at a site to be determined. Eight teams will participate in the regional with the official announcement set to be released Sunday, March 7, at 10:30 p.m. (EST) on College Sports Television. CSTV is available on DirecTV channel 610.

A Look At The Opponent

NORTHWOOD: Ferris holds a 41-19 advantage heading into this Tuesday's 61st meeting. The Timberwolves have won five of the last seven meetings although Ferris recorded a 83-79 win in the most recent (2/21/04) contest at Midland, Mich. NU is currently 16-11 overall and 10-8 in GLIAC action after posting an 86-67 win at Lake Superior State last Thursday (Feb. 26). NU, which was picked to finish third in the 2003-04 GLIAC North Division Preseason Coaches Poll, is led in scoring by senior guard Dallas Logan (20.7 ppg). The Timberwolves have won six of their last eight games to date under seventh-year head coach Bob Taylor. Northwood was 10-16 overall during the 2002-03 campaign and placed tied for sixth in the GLIAC North Division with a 6-12 mark. The Timberwolves' assistant coach, Lewis Garner, compiled 1,437 points and 342 rebounds during his FSU career (1971-75).

2003-04 FSU MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	Hometown/High School (College)
#3	Dennis Springs	G	So.	5-6	135	1L	Toledo, Ohio/Scott (Bowling Green State)
#4	Joe DeMartin	G	Fr.	6-1	160	HS	Mason, Mich.
#10	David Clarke	G	Jr.	5-11	177	1L	Harbor Springs, Mich. (Siena Heights)
#12	Terrance Shaw	F	Fr.	6-5	210	HS	Saginaw, Mich./Bridgeport
#20	Corey Epps	G	Jr.	6-2	175	2L	Benton Harbor, Mich.
#22	Carlton Epps	G	Jr.	6-2	170	2L	Benton Harbor, Mich.
#23	Michael Daniels	F	Fr.	6-6	210	HS	Detroit, Mich./Murray-Wright
#30	Jeffery Shanahan	F	So.	6-6	205	1L	Flint, Mich./Kearsley
#32	Willie Burrel	F	Jr.	6-6	185	T	Muskegon Heights, Mich. (Muskegon CC)
#33	C.J. Van Wieren	G/F	Fr.	6-4	215	HS	Holland, Mich./West Ottawa
#34	Willie Thomas (C)	G	Sr.	6-4	170	1L	Columbus, Ohio/Eastmoor Academy (Muskegon CC)
#42	Nathan Wruble (C)	F/C	Sr.	6-7	225	3L	Harbor Beach, Mich.
#44	John Terrell	F/C	Fr.	6-7	210	R	Muskegon, Mich.
#54	Adam Veltkamp	F/C	Fr.	6-8	200	HS	Cedar Springs, Mich.

Head Coach: Bill Sall, second year (Calvin, 1994)
Volunteer Assistant Coaches: Bill Killian, Jim Lake
HS - High School T - Transfer (C) - Captain

Assistant Coach: Cory Anderson
Basketball Consultant: Dean Davenport

2003-04 Season Trends

SITUATION	FSU RECORD
At home	8-1
On the road	6-8
At neutral sites	0-4
Shoot over 50% from floor	4-1
Shoot less than 50% from floor	10-12
Opponent shoots over 50% from floor	3-10
Opponent shoots less than 50%	11-3
Has higher shooting percentage	9-0
Shoot over 70% from free throw line	9-4
Shoot less than 70% from line	5-9
Opponent shoots over 70% from line	7-7
Opponent less than 70% from line	7-6
Has higher free throw percentage	9-2
Shoot over 30% from three-point line	12-11
Shoot less than 30% from 3-pt. line	2-2
Opponent over 30% from 3-pt. line	7-10
Opponent less than 30% from 3-pt. line	7-3
Has higher 3-pt. percentage	11-7
Has more assists	11-4
Opponent has more assists	3-9
Assists are equal	0-0
Has more turnovers	0-5
Opponent has more turnovers	14-8
Turnovers are equal	0-0
Has more steals	13-9
Opponent has more steals	1-4
Steals are equal	0-0
Has more blocks	8-4
Opponent has more blocks	3-4
Blocks are equal	3-5
In November	0-4
In December	3-5
In January	5-2
In February	6-2
On Monday	1-2
On Tuesday	0-1
On Wednesday	0-0
On Thursday	6-2
On Friday	0-2
On Saturday	7-5
On Sunday	0-1
In afternoon games	6-3
In evening games	8-10
Against ranked teams	1-7
In non-conference games	0-9
In conference games	14-4
In non-conf. games vs. conf. teams	0-0
Attendance under 500	2-4
Attendance over 500	12-9
Has over 25 personal fouls	1-1
Opponent has over 25 personal fouls	0-0
In tournament games	0-4
Against in-state foes	11-6
Against out of state teams	3-7
Against teams with winning records	10-9
Against teams with losing records	2-1
Against teams with even records	2-3
When leading at halftime	12-7
When trailing at halftime	1-5
Three or more reach double-figures	11-12
In overtime game	0-1
Game margin is 1-5 points	2-4
Game margin 5-10 points	4-2
Game margin over 10 points	8-7

