



Jeff Ligney
Director of Media Relations

1110 Washington Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708
Voice: (989) 894-2529 Fax: (989) 894-2825
E-mail: jligney@gliac.org
web site: www.gliac.org/mens/basketball/

March 2, 2006

For Immediate Release

Findlay's Dustin Pfeifer Named 2005-06 GLIAC Men's Basketball Player of the Year

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Senior guard **Dustin Pfeifer** of the University of Findlay has been selected as the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) men's basketball Player of the Year. Rookie guard **Aaron Simpson** of Northwood University was chosen as Freshman of the Year. University of Findlay head coach **Ron Niekamp** earned GLIAC Coach of the Year honors. All three were selected by the GLIAC men's basketball coaches in conjunction with all-conference balloting.

Pfeifer has led the Oilers to an 103-22 record, including a 57-11 record in the GLIAC, during his four years with Findlay. He has guided the Oilers to four straight GLIAC South Division titles, four straight Great Lakes Regional tournament appearances, two GLIAC Tournament championships and one appearance in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight (2005). This season, Pfeifer has averaged 14.9 points, 5.4 assists, 3.0 steals and 2.9 rebounds per game.

For his career, Pfeifer ranks sixth all-time in NCAA Division II men's basketball history with 324 steals. He has scored 1,549 career points, ranking tenth in school history, and holds school records for career assists (554), and career steals (324). Pfeifer has been named First Team All-GLIAC twice (2005, 2006), First Team All-Great Lakes Region (2005), Second Team All-GLIAC (2004), and GLIAC Freshman of the Year (2003). He has also been named to the GLIAC all-tournament team three straight years.

Simpson led all GLIAC freshmen in scoring this season, averaging 13.7 points per game. He was Northwood's top scorer this season, while also leading the team in free throws made, field goals made and minutes per game. He remained a consistent threat for Northwood during the entire season, posting double-digit point totals in 16 of his final 18 games. Simpson ranked second on the team in rebounding (4.6 per game), and ranked ninth in GLIAC-only statistics, averaging 14.4 points per game. No other freshman ranked in the top-15 in the league in conference games. He becomes the first Northwood basketball player to earn GLIAC Freshman of the Year honors.

Niekamp guided the Oilers to their fifth straight GLIAC South Division title during the 2005-06 season. Overall, he has won six titles in during Findlay's nine years with the league. Niekamp, who has a 457-165 career record in 21 years with the Oilers, including 15, 20-win campaigns, has led Findlay to a 25-3 record this season. He has guided Findlay to a 39 game home winning streak, the longest in the nation, and has a overall record of 261-45 inside Croy Gymnasium.

Niekamp has been named GLIAC Coach of the Year three times (2005-06, 2004-05 and 2002-03) and has a career record of 111-47 in GLIAC games. Niekamp's Oilers, who have won the last two GLIAC Tournament titles, have a 9-3 record in GLIAC Tournament games and a 7-3 record in NCAA Great Lakes Regional games.

Joining Pfeifer on the All-GLIAC South Division First Team are: Ashland University senior center **Justin Brown**; Mercyhurst College junior guard **Avi Fogel**; Wayne State University senior guard **Herb Goliday**; and Findlay teammate, junior forward **Frank Phillips**.

The All-GLIAC North Division First Team includes: Grand Valley State University sophomore center **Callistus Eziukwu** and senior guard **Courtney James**; Michigan Tech University junior guard **Radayl Richardson**; Ferris State University senior guard **Dennis Springs** and Northern Michigan University junior forward **Ricky Volcy**.

-more-

**Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
2005-06 Men's Basketball All-Conference Teams and Postseason Awards**

Player of the Year: Dustin Pfeifer - University of Findlay (Sr., G, Washington Court House, Ohio)
Freshman of the Year: Aaron Simpson - Northwood University (Fr., G, Detroit, Mich./U of D Jesuit)
Coach of the Year: Ron Niekamp - University of Findlay

GLIAC North Division All-Conference First Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Callistus Eziukwu	Grand Valley State University	So.	C	Muskegon, Mich.
Courtney James	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	G	Kentwood, Mich./East Kentwood
Radayl Richardson	Michigan Tech University	Jr.	G	Detroit, Mich./St. Martin DePorres
Dennis Springs	Ferris State University	Sr.	G	Toledo, Ohio/Scott
Ricky Volcy	Northern Michigan University	Jr.	F.	Montreal, Quebec/Duboise

GLIAC South Division All-Conference First Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Justin Brown	Ashland University	Sr.	F/C	Columbus, Ohio/West Liberty State
Avi Fogel	Mercyhurst College	Jr.	G	San Diego, Calif.
Herb Goliday	Wayne State University	Sr.	G	Royal Oak Twp, Mich./Ferndale
Dustin Pfeifer	University of Findlay	Sr.	G	Washington Court House, Ohio
Frank Phillips	University of Findlay	Jr.	F	Cincinnati, Ohio/Roger Bacon

GLIAC North Division All-Conference Second Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Antwuan Holt	Ferris State University	Sr.	G	Okemos, Mich.
Jason Jamerson	Grand Valley State University	So.	G	Muncie, Ind./Burriss
Chris Johnston	Saginaw Valley State University	So.	F	Clarkston, Mich.
Terrance Shaw	Ferris State University	Jr.	F	Saginaw, Mich./Bridgeport
Marco Volcy	Northern Michigan University	Sr.	F	Montreal, Quebec/LeBlanc

GLIAC South Division All-Conference Second Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Dorian Bass	University of Findlay	Jr.	G	New Concord, Ohio/John Glenn
Cory Coe	Hillsdale College	Sr.	G	Williamston, Mich.
Kris Krzyminski	Wayne State University	Jr.	G	Flint, Mich./Central
Terry Smith	Mercyhurst College	So.	G	Syracuse, NY/Bishop Ludden
Aurimas Truskauskas	Gannon University	Jr.	F	Kalnelis Village, Lithuania

GLIAC North Division All-Defensive Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Callistus Eziukwu	Grand Valley State University	So.	C	Muskegon, Mich.
Courtney James	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	G	Kentwood, Mich./East Kentwood
Radayl Richardson	Michigan Tech University	Jr.	G	Detroit, Mich./St. Martin DePorres
Dennis Springs	Ferris State University	Sr.	G	Toledo, Ohio/Scott
Marco Volcy	Northern Michigan University	Sr.	F	Montreal, Quebec/LeBlanc

GLIAC South Division All-Defensive Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Justin Brown	Ashland University	Sr.	C	Columbus, Ohio/West Liberty State
Andy Kubinski	Mercyhurst College	Sr.	G/F	Erie, Pa./Cathedral Prep
Dustin Pfeifer	University of Findlay	Sr.	G	Washington Court House, Ohio
Brent Schnipke	University of Findlay	Jr.	C	Ottoville, Ohio
Aurimas Truskauskas	Gannon University	Jr.	F	Kalnelis Village, Lithuania