

# Football News Release



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S-07

**FERRIS STATE AT MERCYHURST**  
**OCTOBER 8, 2001**

## GAME FACTS

**FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS**  
**(3-3; 3-2 GLIAC)**

At

**MERCYHURST LAKERS**  
**(0-4; 0-4 GLIAC)**

**KICKOFF:** 1:30 p.m. (EDT)

**STADIUM/SURFACE:** Louis J. Tullio Field  
(2,300)/AstroTurf

**RADIO COVERAGE:** WBRN-AM (1460) – Jason Edwards (play-by-play), John Smith (color commentary).

**THE RECORDS:** Ferris State dropped to 3-3 overall and 3-2 in the GLIAC as a result of suffering a 63-17 conference loss to nationally-ranked Grand Valley State last Saturday (Oct. 6) at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. The Bulldogs were 5-6 overall a season ago, which includes a 5-5 GLIAC mark (5th-place tie). Ferris was 3-3 in road games last season. In 1999, FSU was 7-3 overall and conference co-champions (7-2). The Bulldogs have won or shared the conference championship six of the last nine years, including five straight (1992-96).

**Mercyhurst** is 0-4 both overall and in the GLIAC following a 28-21 conference setback to Saginaw Valley State last Saturday (Oct. 6) at SVSU's Harvey Randall Wickes Memorial Stadium in University Center, Mich. The Lakers, who are 0-2 at home this campaign, were 4-7 overall and 4-6 (eighth-place tie) in the GLIAC last season. MC was 1-4 at home a season ago.

**THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce** (Ferris State, 1979), 7th season, 45-28-0 (.616 — (0-1-0 vs. Mercyhurst).

**MERCYHURST – Joe Kimball** (Syracuse, 1975), 9th season, 39-43-1 (.476); Career: 17th season, 76-80-2 (.487) – (1-0-0 vs. Ferris State).

## 2001 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS (3-3, 3-2 GLIAC)

Sept. 1	at South Dakota State	L 24-34
<b>Sept. 8</b>	<b>Findlay*</b>	<b>W 33-10</b>
Sept. 15	at Saginaw Valley State*	L 20-33
Sept. 22	at Wayne State*	W 38-14
<b>Sept. 29</b>	<b>Northwood*</b>	<b>W 32-29</b>
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>Grand Valley State* (HF)</b>	<b>L 17-63</b>
Oct. 13	at Mercyhurst*	1:30 p.m.
<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>Michigan Tech* (HC)</b>	<b>2 p.m.</b>
Oct. 27	at Northern Michigan*	7 p.m.
Nov. 3	at Hillsdale*	2:30 p.m.
<b>Nov. 10</b>	<b>Indianapolis*</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>

All times are Eastern  
Home games in **Bold** \*GLIAC Game  
(HF) – Hall of Fame (HC) – Homecoming

**THE GAME:** The Ferris State University football team, which has won two of its last three games, will make its first-ever appearance in Erie, Pa., this Saturday (Oct. 13) as the Bulldogs go up against the Mercyhurst College Lakers in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) action. The contest represents the second meeting ever between the two teams.

**HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE:** Jeff Pierce is presently in his seventh year at Ferris State and has registered a career 45-28-0 coaching record to date. In that span, Pierce has already made a mark among the school's all-time coaches by posting the best winning percentage (.616) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is two wins away from tying Sam Ketchman (1953-66) for second place in all-time victories and is 16 wins away from becoming the winningest FSU coach and would surpass Keith Otterbein (60-39-0, 1986-94). Under Pierce's tutelage, the Bulldogs have won or shared three GLIAC titles while earning back-to-back (1995-96) berths in the NCAA Division II National Championship Playoffs, including a semifinal-round appearance in '95.

**2001 HARLON HILL TROPHY CANDIDATE:** Senior flanker **Clarence Coleman (Miami, Fla./Miramar)**, the NCAA Division II's all-time leader in receptions, is among several NCAA Division II standouts vying for the 2001 Harlon Hill Trophy as the nation's top Division II football player. The All-America receiver has currently amassed 4,427 career receiving yards on a NCAA-II record 283 catches in 37 games at FSU while compiling 251 career receptions for 4,038 yards in conference games only. Coleman established school single-season marks for receptions (97), receiving yards (1,519) and TD's (15) last fall. His 89 catches for 1,441 yards in GLIAC games last season both represented conference records. The All-America wideout, who's both the GLIAC and FSU's all-time leader in receptions, receiving yards and all-purpose yards, has presently recorded 10 double-figure reception games in his career while registering 24 career 100-yard plus receiving single-game performances.

**ALL-TIME SERIES:** Mercyhurst holds a 1-0-0 series edge over Ferris State after recording a 21-10 road triumph last season (10/14) in the Bulldogs' 74th Homecoming contest.

### Mercyhurst leads 1-0-0

FSU Scoring Avg.: 10.0 (10 pts.)  
MC Scoring Avg.: 21.0 (21 pts.)  
Differential: +11.0 (MC)

At Erie: ---

At Big Rapids: MC leads 1-0-0

First Game: MC 21, FSU 10\* (10/14/00)

Last FSU Win: ---

Last MC Win: 21-10\* (10/14/00)

Last Meeting in Erie: ----

Current Series Win Streak: 1 (MC 10/14/00)

Longest Series Win Streak: 1 (MC 10/14/00)

Most Points in a FSU Win: ----

Most Points in a MC Win: 21 (21-10\* - 10/14/00)

Most Decisive Score: MC 11 (21-10\* - 10/14/00)

\* - Denotes FSU home game

2000 MC 21-10 H

**LAST MEETING – 2000:** Ferris State had its homecoming spoiled as Mercyhurst, thanks to a conference-record tying six pass interceptions, recorded a 21-10 victory over the Bulldogs before 3,350 spectators at Top Taggart Field. Ferris, which outgained the Lakers in total offense 388 to 354 yards, trailed 7-0 at 11:33 of the opening quarter as MC quarterback Mac McArdle threw a 16-yard TD pass. The Bulldogs countered shortly thereafter when quarterback Kyle Park completed a slant pass to flanker Doug Searles from four yards out to tie the contest at seven-apiece with 9:44 left in the opening quarter. Mercyhurst broke the deadlock in the second quarter at the 13:18 mark when McArdle put the Lakers ahead for good with a five-yard TD toss to give the visitors a 14-7 halftime lead. A 21-yard field goal by kicker Brian McCullough with 12:29 remaining in the third quarter pulled FSU within 14-10, but the Bulldogs would get no closer as the Lakers closed out the scoring on McArdle's six-yard TD pass. MC, which was averaging over 300 yards passing per game this season, compiled 168 yards on the ground and 186 via the air. For Ferris, Park was 19-of-47 in passing for 289 yards, but was intercepted five times. His primary target, split end Clarence Coleman had nine receptions for 128 yards. Searles totaled four catches for 76 yards while tailback Derek Fudge ran for a game-high 82 yards on 21 carries. Outside linebacker Rob Ridling spear-headed the defense with a game-high 17 tackles (11 solos). Outside linebacker Charlie Pierson and middle linebacker Luke Piepkow notched 16 and 12 tackles, respectively. Defensive end Dave Zuiderveen and defensive tackle Ryan Morris compiled nine stops apiece. Cornerback DeRen Ellis garnered two pass interceptions.

– more –

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**INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

**2001 GLIAC STANDINGS**

	GLIAC			OVERALL		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Grand Valley State	4	0	.1000	5	0	1.000
Indianapolis	4	1	.800	5	1	.833
Saginaw Valley State	4	1	.800	5	1	.833
Michigan Tech	3	2	.600	3	2	.600
<b>Ferris State</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>.600</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>.500</b>
Hillsdale	3	2	.600	3	3	.500
Wayne State	2	2	.500	2	3	.400
Ashland	2	3	.400	3	3	.500
Northwood	1	3	.250	1	3	.250
Northern Michigan	1	4	.200	2	4	.333
Findlay	1	4	.200	1	5	.167
Mercyhurst	0	4	.000	0	4	.000

**LAST WEEK'S RESULTS**

at Saginaw Valley State 28, Mercyhurst 21\*  
 Michigan Tech 55, at Northwood 33\*  
 at Ashland 24, Hillsdale 10\*  
 Wayne State 44, at Northern Michigan 41\*  
**Grand Valley State 63, at Ferris State 17\***  
 at Indianapolis 26, Findlay 8\*

**SATURDAY, OCT. 13**

Ashland at Michigan Tech\*, 12 p.m.  
 Saginaw Valley State at Northwood\*, 12 p.m.  
 Findlay at Northern Michigan\*, 1 p.m.  
 Hillsdale at Wayne State\*, 1 p.m.  
**Ferris State at Mercyhurst\*, 1:30 p.m.**  
 Grand Valley State at Indianapolis\*, 2 p.m.



www.gliac.org

\*GLIAC Game  
 All Times are Eastern



**LAST WEEK:** Grand Valley State junior quarterback Curt Anes set a GLIAC single-game record with eight TD passes, including six in the first half as the Lakers posted a 63-17 road victory over Ferris State in front of a 2,901 fans at Top Taggart Field. GVSU junior wide receiver David Kircus also set a conference mark with five TD receptions -- 25, 10 57, 43 and 14 yards. The game was close in the opening quarter as Ferris countered GVSU's TD with one of its own at the 6:17 mark on senior tailback **Matt Otero's (Independence, Ohio)** one-yard plunge to knot the contest at seven-all. However, the Anes-Kircus combination hooked up for the second time in the quarter on a 10-yard TD pass play to give the visitors a 14-7 lead after 15 minutes of play. The Bulldogs drew within 14-10 on sophomore kicker **Tom Perez's (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** 27-yard field goal with just under 12 minutes remaining in the second quarter before the Lakers proceeded to reel off 28 unanswered points to claim a 42-10 halftime lead. GVSU added 21 more points in the second half, including 14 in the third quarter, to go up 56-10 after three quarters. A 13-yard TD pass from redshirt freshman quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** to senior flanker **Clarence Coleman (Miami, Fla./Miramar)** with 1:34 left in the contest concluded the game's scoring. The Lakers' offense totaled 587 yards while Ferris netted a 302-yard total. **Otero** rushed for a game-high 149 yards on 21 carries to lead the Bulldogs while **Coleman** had a game-leading nine receptions for 81 yards. **Marsan** completed 17-of-29 passes for 133 yards and one TD. For GVSU, Anes threw for 301 yards on 21-of-27 passing while Kircus had eight catches for 169 yards. Junior running back Brent Lesniak ran for a team-high 111 yards on 14 attempts to lead the Lakers' ground attack. Sophomore free safety **Rich Dosh (Burton/Flint Kearsley)** and sophomore middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** posted a game-best 12 tackles each while senior outside linebacker **Charlie Pierson (St. Ignace/LaSalle)** chipped in with 10 stops. Junior defensive ends **Bo Moore (Montrose)** and **Michael King (Scotts/Vicksburg)** garnered eight and six tackles, respectively.

**BULLDOG BITES:** ➤ **Clarence Coleman**, who presently has 36 career receiving TD's in conference games only, is two shy of tying the GLIAC record for most receiving TD's in a career held by Saginaw Valley State's Brian Dolph (38 TD's; 1997-2000). **Coleman** moved ahead of former FSU kicker Jason Lipke (1992-95; 241 pts.) into sixth place on the GLIAC's career scoring charts. The wideout has presently amassed 244 career points in 34 conference outings and trails Saginaw Valley State's Leo Loiacano (251 pts., 1994-97) by seven points for fifth place. **Coleman**, who has 268 career points, presently ranks third among the school's all-time scoring leaders and needs 32 points to move into a second-place tie with Jason Lipke (300 pts., 1992-95).

➤ Redshirt freshman linebacker **Kevin Myers (Midland)** recorded his

first collegiate interception against Grand Valley State, which also marked the first time in eight games and 210 passing attempts that GVSU quarterback Curt Anes had a pass intercepted.

➤ Tailback **Matt Otero** is averaging 146.5 yards per game (293 total) in the Bulldogs' last two outings. He rushed for a 149 yards vs. Grand Valley State (10/6) after compiling 144 yards on 27 attempts against Northwood a week earlier (9/29).

➤ The Bulldogs are averaging 152.0 yards rushing (456 total) in three home contests this fall while registering 63.0 yards a game (189 total) in three road games. In passing, Ferris is averaging 202.3 yards an outing (607 total) at home and 285.7 yards (857 total) on the road to date.

➤ **Clarence Coleman** finished his four-year career against Grand Valley State averaging 153.5 receiving yards per game (614 total) and 11.0 receptions an outing (44 catches) in four appearances. He averaged 13.9 yards per catch vs. GVSU in his career.

➤ Free safety **Rich Dosh's** 12 tackles versus Grand Valley State represents a personal career best, eclipsing his previous high of seven tackles at Saginaw Valley State earlier this fall (9/15).

➤ Outside linebacker **Charlie Pierson** notched his 14th double-figure tackle output of his career and fourth this campaign with 10 stops vs. Grand Valley State (10/6). He's presently averaging 8.1 tackles a game in 34 career contests.

➤ Ferris State has posted a 9-12-2 (.435) all-time record against Pennsylvania schools, which includes a 2-5-2 road mark and a 7-7-0 home ledger.

➤ FSU is averaging 244.0 passing yards per game in its first six contests this season and recorded a 244.2 yard average last season in its initial six outings. In rushing, the Bulldogs have averaged 107.5 yards an outing while registering a 136.5 yards per game average a year ago.

**COLEMAN MAKES HISTORY:** **Clarence Coleman**, the NCAA Division II's all-time leader in pass receptions with 283 career catches to date, is 42 yards away from becoming the NCAA-II's career leader in receiving yards. Coleman has registered a current 4,427-career yard total and would surpass the national mark held by James Roe of Norfolk State (4,468 yds. on 239 receptions, 1992-95). He's averaging 15.6 yards per catch and 119.6 per game in 37 career outings.

Coleman is also listed among the national career leaders in all four NCAA divisions (I-A, I-AA, II and III), presently ranking seventh in receiving yards (4,427), ninth in yards per game (119.6), 10th in receptions (283), tied for 14th in receptions per game (7.6) and tied for 30th in touch-down receptions (38). Coleman is two catches shy of moving into a ninth-place tie with Scott Hvistendahl (285 receptions for 4,696 yds.) of NCAA-III member Augsburg College (Minn.) on the all-time receptions list.

**UP NEXT:** Ferris State hosts the Michigan Tech University Huskies Saturday, Oct. 20, in conference play at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. Opening kickoff for Ferris' 75th Homecoming Game is slated for 2 p.m. (EDT).

**Bulldogs-Of-The-Week:** Following each Ferris State contest, individual players will be recognized by the FSU coaching staff for their outstanding performance. Individual(s) will be selected on offense, defense, specialty teams, and for extraordinary effort (*every player, every play*).

DATE	OPPONENT	BULLDOGS-OF-THE-WEEK
Sept. 1	South Dakota State	Offense-Kyle Park, Defense-DeRen Ellis, Specialty-Tom Perez, EPEP-William Foster
<b>Sept. 8</b>	<b>Findlay</b>	Offense-Clarence Coleman, Defense-J.J. Moreland, Specialty-Devin Sokolowski, EPEP-Derek Fudge
Sept. 15	Saginaw Valley State	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Bo Moore, Specialty-Tim Gill, EPEP-Lamar Patterson
Sept. 22	Wayne State	Offense-Tom Marsan, Defense-Luke Piepkow, Specialty-Jason Wells, EPEP-Charlie Pierson
<b>Sept. 29</b>	<b>Northwood</b>	Offense-Lamar Patterson, Defense-Charlie Pierson, Specialty-DeRen Ellis, EPEP-Matt Otero
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>Grand Valley State</b>	Offense-Matt Otero, Defense-Rich Dosh, Specialty-Robert Giles, EPEP-Patrick Smith
Oct. 13	Mercyhurst	
<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>Michigan Tech</b>	
Oct. 27	Northern Michigan	
Nov. 3	Hillsdale	
<b>Nov. 10</b>	<b>Indianapolis</b>	

Home games listed in **bold**