

Football News Release



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S-05

NORTHWOOD AT FERRIS STATE
SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

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GAME FACTS

NORTHWOOD TIMBERWOLVES (1-1; 1-1 GLIAC)
AT
FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(2-2; 2-1 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 7 p.m. (EDT)

STADIUM/SURFACE: Top Taggart Field
(6,200)/Artificial Turf (AstroTurf 12)

RADIO COVERAGE: WBRN-AM (1460) – John Smith (play-by-play), Ted Halm (color commentary).

THE RECORDS: Ferris State evened its overall record to 2-2 while improving to 2-1 in the GLIAC after registering a 38-14 conference victory over Wayne State last Saturday (Sept. 22) at Wayne State Stadium in Detroit, Mich. The Bulldogs were 5-6 overall a season ago, which includes a 5-5 GLIAC mark (5th-place tie). 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).

Northwood is presently 1-1 both overall and in the GLIAC after claiming a 51-14 conference home-opening win against Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 22) at NU's Louis B. Juillerat Stadium in Midland, Mich. The Timberwolves, who have been GLIAC Co-Champions each of the last two seasons, were 10-2 overall and 9-1 in the GLIAC last year. NU's 10 victories represented a school record as the Timberwolves advanced to the quarterfinal round of the 2000 NCAA Division II Playoffs.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 7th season, 44-27-0 (.619) – (5-1-0 vs. Northwood).

NORTHWOOD – Pat Riepma (Hillsdale, 1983), 9th season, 42-42-2 (.500) – (1-7-0 vs. Ferris State).

2001 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS (2-2, 2-1 GLIAC)

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

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

THE GAME: The Ferris State University football team will host Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) foe the Northwood University Timberwolves this Saturday (Sept. 29) in the Community Night Game at Big Rapids, Mich.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce is presently in his seventh year at Ferris State and has registered a career 44-27-0 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 (.619) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is three wins away from tying Sam Ketchman (1953-66) for second place in all-time victories and is 17 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.

FSU PLAYER NAMED CONFERENCE PLAYER-OF-THE-WEEK: Redshirt freshman quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** has been selected this week's (Sept. 24) GLIAC Offensive Player-of-the-Week for his performance in last Saturday's victory at Wayne State. In his first collegiate start, Marsan threw for 334 yards and four TD's on 20-of-38 passing for a 56.2 completion percentage and a 16.7 yards per completion average.

ALL-TIME SERIES: Ferris State has a 14-13-0 series edge over Northwood in a series which commenced in 1972. FSU has won 12 of the last 14 meetings after NU was victorious in 11 of the previous 13 contests. Ferris is averaging 37.9 points per game (531 total) in the last 14 games.

Ferris State leads 14-13-0	Longest Series Win Streak: 6	1978	NU	40-27	H
FSU Scoring Avg.: 24.9 (674 pts.)	(NU 1973-78) & (FSU 1992-97)	1979	FSU	17-7	A
NU Scoring Avg.: 20.0 (541 pts.)	Most Points in a FSU Win: 56	1980	NU	16-6	H
Differential: +4.9 (FSU)	(56-14 – 10/21/95)	1981	NU	13-10	A
	Most Points in a NU Win:	1982	NU	27-14	H
	40 (40-27* – 10/21/78)	1983	NU	38-14	A
At Midland: FSU leads 8-7-0	Most Decisive Score: FSU 42	1984	NU	21-0	H
At Big Rapids: Tied at 6-6-0	(56-14 – 10/21/95); NU 27 (51-24	1985	FSU	38-20	A
First Game: FSU 20, NU 3*	– 10/28/89)	1986	FSU	35-29	H
(10/28/72)	* – Denotes FSU home game	1987	FSU	43-13	A
Last FSU Win: 28-14 (9/30/99)		1988	FSU	37-6	H
Last NU Win: 35-21 (9/26/98)		1989	NU	51-24	A
Last Meeting in Big Rapids:		1992	FSU	33-10	A
FSU 46, NU 36* (9/25/99)		1993	FSU	47-0	A
Current Series Win Streak: 2		1994	FSU	52-16	H
(FSU 9/25/99 – 9/30/00)		1995	FSU	56-14	A
		1996	FSU	40-24	H
		1997	FSU	31-17	A
		1998	NU	35-21	A
		1999	FSU	46-36	H
		2000	FSU	28-14	A

LAST MEETING – 2000: Ferris State snapped Northwood's nine-game home winning streak as the Bulldogs took advantage of seven Timberwolves' turnovers to register a 28-14 road win. The Bulldogs scored on the game's first possession with tailback Derek Fudge's 59-yard TD run at the 12:57 mark. Northwood responded with a 14-play drive, capped by quarterback Sleepie Tollie's one-yard plunge with 6:25 remaining in the opening quarter. That would mark the last time NU would match Ferris in scoring as Fudge, who rushed for a game-high 171 yards on 32 carries, went into the end zone from a yard out at 4:36 as the Bulldogs led 13-7 at the half. FSU increased its lead to 19-7 in the third quarter (11:20) as the Bulldogs' accounted for the quarter's only points on a nine-yard TD pass from quarterback Kyle Park to split end Clarence Coleman, who had 115 yards receiving on nine catches. The pair then hooked up again on the two-point conversion attempt as Ferris led 21-7 going into the fourth quarter. The Timberwolves hit paydirt with 7:38 remaining in as Tollie connected with wide receiver Ron Hunter on a 11-yard scoring strike to close the gap at 21-14. But, the Bulldogs countered on the ensuing possession as Park threw a 31-yard TD pass to Coleman on a fourth down and seven-yard situation to conclude an eight-play, 47-yard scoring drive at the 3:58 mark. NU's final two possessions resulted in turnovers as cornerback Ryan Hodges intercepted a Tollie pass at the FSU 27-yard line and then with 1:25 left in the contest, defensive tackle Ryan Morris recovered a Tollie fumble at the Bulldogs' eight-yard line to seal the victory. Both teams eclipsed the 300-yard barrier in total offense as NU posted a 367-yard total while Ferris recorded 364 total yards. Park was 18-of-25 in passing for 191 yards and two TD's while Tollie threw for 257 yards and a TD on 14-of-21 passing. Outside linebacker Rob Ridling's 12 tackles led the defense, which also received 11-tackle performances from free safety Alvin Grier and outside linebacker Charlie Pierson. Cornerback Devin Hutchings chipped in with 10 total stops, all solos.

– more –

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INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

2001 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC			OVERALL		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Grand Valley State	2	0	1.000	3	0	1.000
Indianapolis	2	1	.667	3	1	.750
Saginaw Valley State	2	1	.667	3	1	.750
Michigan Tech	2	1	.667	2	1	.667
Ferris State	2	1	.667	2	2	.500
Hillsdale	2	1	.667	2	2	.500
Northwood	1	1	.500	1	1	.500
Wayne State	1	1	.500	1	2	.333
Ashland	1	2	.333	2	2	.500
Northern Michigan	1	2	.333	2	2	.500
Mercyhurst	0	2	.000	0	2	.000
Findlay	0	3	.000	0	4	.000



www.gliac.org

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Michigan Tech 33, Northern Michigan 28*
at Northwood 51, Mercyhurst 14*

Ferris State 38, at Wayne State 14*

Grand Valley State 63, at Ashland 19*
Saginaw Valley State 17, at Indianapolis 14*
at Hillsdale 42, Findlay 13*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Ashland at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m.
Indianapolis at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m.
Michigan Tech at Hillsdale*, 2:30 p.m.
Wayne State at Findlay*, 6 p.m.

Northwood at Ferris State*, 7 p.m.

Northern Michigan at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m.

*GLIAC Game
All Times are Eastern

2001 GLIAC PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1.	Northwood (7)	126
2.	Grand Valley State (5)	109
3.	Saginaw Valley State	97
4.	Ferris State	91
5.	Northern Michigan	78
6.	Ashland	60
7.	Michigan Tech	54
8.	Indianapolis	49
9.	Wayne State	47
10.	Hillsdale	46
11.	Mercyhurst	31
12.	Findlay	14

First place votes in parentheses. Voting was conducted among the GLIAC football coaches; coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team. Points were assigned as follows: First-11 points; Second-10 points; Third-9 points; Etc.

LAST WEEK: Ferris State redshirt frosh quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** passed for 334 yards and tied a Wayne State Stadium record with four TD aerials in his first collegiate start as the Bulldogs garnered a 38-14 win over the Warriors last Saturday (Sept. 22) in Detroit, Mich. WSU scored first when senior wide receiver Pierre Brown caught a 44-yard TD pass from sophomore quarterback Dan Gray with 3:54 remaining in the first quarter. But, Ferris struck back less than two minutes later when senior flanker **Clarence Coleman (Miami, Fla./Miramar)** was on the receiving end of a 63-yard TD pass from **Marsan** to knot the game at seven apiece after 15 minutes. FSU then took the lead for good in the second quarter as **Marsan** recorded two more TD passes on a pair of 12-yard tosses to sophomore tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)** and junior flanker **Doug Searles (Marshall)** as the Bulldogs held a 21-7 halftime advantage. Ferris proceeded to erupt for 10 unanswered points in the third quarter as **Marsan** connected with **Fudge** on an 89-yard TD pass play at the 13-minute mark and then sophomore kicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** booted a 37-yard field goal as the visitors went up 31-7 going into the final quarter. The Warriors tallied their final points on sophomore running back Pat Harwood's one-yard plunge with 12:40 left. FSU junior defensive tackle **Jason Feasel (Ceresco/Battle Creek Harper Creek)** returned a WSU fumble 40 yards to paydirt at the 9:59 mark to wrap up the scoring. Individually, **Coleman** had a game-high 11 catches for 167 yards while **Fudge** caught four passes for 114 yards as the Bulldogs rolled up 369 yards in total offense to the Warriors' 282-yard total. Gray passed for 209 yards and Brown had four receptions for 104 yards. Senior outside linebacker **Charlie Pierson (St. Ignace/LaSalle)** and sophomore middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** notched eight tackles

apiece. **Piepkow** and senior cornerback **Devin Hutchings (Inkster/Dearborn Robichaud)** both recorded an interception for seven and 22 yards, respectively.

BULLDOG BITES: **Clarence Coleman**, who presently has 35 career receiving TD's in conference games only, is three 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 is nine points shy from tying former FSU kicker Jason Lipke (1992-95; 241 pts.) for sixth place on the GLIAC's career scoring charts. The wideout has presently amassed 232 career points in 32 conference outings. He has amassed 256 career points to date and is only two points away from tying Mo Harris (1996-99; 258 pts.) for fourth-place among Ferris' all-time scoring leaders . . . Sophomore tailback **Derek Fudge's** 114 receiving yards at Wayne State represents a personal career high, surpassing his previous best of 31 yards on three catches in the 2000 season opener at Indiana, Pa. (9/2/00). Fudge, who has eight receptions for 127 yards (15.9 ypr.) in four games this fall, totaled 82 receiving yards on 15 catches (5.5 ypr.) in 11 outings a year ago . . . The Bulldogs have passed for 200 yards or more in 21 of their last 25 outings, including 11 300-yard or more single-game efforts. FSU is averaging 307.5 yards per game (6,458 total yards) in those 21 contests . . . Since 1992, the Bulldogs are 8-1 in their fifth game of a season, including a 4-0 home ledger in such contests.

2001 HARLON HILL TROPHY CANDIDATE: **Clarence Coleman**, the GLIAC and FSU's all-time leader in receptions and receiving yardage, 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 4,338 career receiving yards on 273 catches in 35 games at FSU while compiling 250 career receptions for 4,116 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. He has recorded 10 double-figure reception games in his career while registering 24 career 100-yard plus receiving single-game performances.

COLEMAN ABOUT TO MAKE HISTORY: **Clarence Coleman**, who has compiled 273 career receptions, is presently tied for the NCAA Division II career pass receptions record with Damien Hoffman of Minnesota-Morris (1997-00; 3,128 yds.). He's also 130 yards shy of tying the all-time mark for career receiving yards which is currently held by Norfolk (Va.) State's James Roe (1992-95; 239 receptions). Coleman has totaled 4,338 career yards (15.9 yards per catch) to date.

UP NEXT: Ferris State continues its two-game conference homestand as the Bulldogs host their arch-rival the Grand Valley State University Lakers Saturday, Oct 6. The second annual FSU Hall of Fame Game is slated for a 1:30 p.m. (EDT) opening kickoff at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich.

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
Sept. 8	Findlay	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
Sept. 29	Northwood	
Oct. 6	Grand Valley State	
Oct. 13	Mercyhurst	
Oct. 20	Michigan Tech	
Oct. 27	Northern Michigan	
Nov. 3	Hillsdale	
Nov. 10	Indianapolis	

Home games listed in **bold**