

Football News Release

S-8

FERRIS STATE AT FINDLAY
OCTOBER 28, 2002



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GAME FACTS

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(4-3; 3-3 GLIAC)
AT
FINDLAY OILERS
(7-1; 6-1 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 1 p.m. (EST)

STADIUM/SURFACE: Donnell Stadium
(7,500)/High Performance Gravity Turf.

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

THE RECORDS: Ferris State is 4-3 overall and 3-3 in the GLIAC as a result of a registering a 24-3 conference win over ninth-ranked Saginaw Valley State last Saturday (Oct. 26) at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. The Bulldogs are 1-2 in road encounters this campaign. Last fall, Ferris finished 7-4 overall, including 7-3 in the GLIAC (third place). The Bulldogs have won or shared the conference title six of the last 11 years, including five straight (1992-96).

Findlay won its second straight game in improving to 7-1 overall and 6-1 in the GLIAC with a 25-20 conference win over Ashland last Saturday (Oct. 26) at AU's Community Stadium in Ashland, Ohio. The Oilers, who began the season with a five-game winning string, are 4-1 at home this season. UF concluded the 2001 campaign at 3-8 overall and 3-7 in the GLIAC (ninth-place tie).

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 8th season, 53-32-0 (.624) – (3-1-0 vs. Findlay). Pierce is 25-18-0 (.581) in road games, 13-4-0 (.765) in November and 49-26-0 (.653) in GLIAC contests.

FINDLAY – Dan Simrell (Toledo, 1966), 3rd season, 12-17-2 (.419); Career – 11th season, 62-54-2 (.534) – (0-2-0 vs. Ferris State). Simrell served as head coach at Toledo from 1982-89 and was both the Mid-American Conference (MAC) and Ohio Coach of the Year in 1984.

2002 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Sept. 7	Hillsdale	W 33-21
Sept. 14	Grand Valley State*	Cancelled
Sept. 21	at Northern Michigan*	L 3-17
Sept. 28	Wayne State* (HF)	L 21-36
Oct. 5	at Northwood*	L 24-41
Oct. 12	Michigan Tech* (HC)	W 21-14 OT
Oct. 19	at Mercyhurst*	W 19-13 OT
Oct. 26	Saginaw Valley State*	W 24-3
Nov. 2	at Findlay*	1 p.m.
Nov. 9	Ashland*	1:30 p.m.
Nov. 16	at Indianapolis*	1 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 attempt to extend its current three-game winning streak this Saturday (Nov. 2) as the Bulldogs travel to Findlay, Ohio in a Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) matchup against the University of Findlay Oilers.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce, who has a 53-32-0 career coaching record, has made his mark among the school's all-time coaches by presently having the second best winning percentage (.624) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is eight wins shy of becoming FSU's winningest coach, surpassing 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 '95 semifinal-round appearance.

ALL-TIME SERIES: Ferris State trails Findlay 8-6-0 in their all-time series which dates back to 1934 (10/27) with the Bulldogs dropping a 12-6 road decision to the Oilers. UF won the first six meetings, but FSU has posted victories in five of the last six between the teams and has a current three-game series winning streak. Ferris is 3-1 in its last four appearances at Findlay. Nine of the last 13 meetings have been decided by 14 points or less, including nine of the last 12 outings while the average margin of victory for both teams in the series is 20.0 points per game.

Findlay leads 8-6-0	(FSU 9/18/99 – 9/8/01)	1935	UF	33-6	H
FSU Scoring Avg.: 16.8 (235 pts.)	Longest Series Win Streak: 6	1963	UF	21-6	H
UF Scoring Avg.: 19.9 (279 pts.)	(UF 10/27/34 – 10/8/66)	1964	UF	47-0	A
Differential: +3.1 (UF)	Most Points in a FSU Win: 56	1965	UF	27-0	H
	(56-14 – 9/18/99)	1966	UF	20-0	A
At Big Rapids: UF leads 4-3-0	Most Points in a UF Win: 47	1968	FSU	36-16	A
At Findlay: UF leads 4-3-0	(47-0 – 10/10/64)	1969	UF	20-3	H
First Game: UF 12, FSU 6	Most Decisive Score: FSU 42	1970	FSU	21-7	A
(10/27/34)	(56-14 – 9/18/99) UF 47 (47-0 –	1971	FSU	28-13	H
Last FSU Win: 33-10* (9/8/01)	10/10/64)	1998	UF	24-7	A
Last UF Win: 24-7 (9/19/98)		1999	FSU	56-14	H
Last Meeting in Findlay:	* – Denotes FSU home game	2000	FSU	33-15	A
FSU 33, UF 15 (9/9/00)		2001	FSU	33-10	H
Current Series Win Streak: 3	1934 UF 12-6 A				

LAST MEETING – 2001: A 30-point first-half scoring outburst propelled Ferris State to a 33-10 conference-opening win over Findlay before a Top Taggart Field evening crowd of 3,884 fans. FSU jumped out to a 10-0 first-quarter lead on kicker Tom Perez's 42-yard field goal and a 55-yard TD scoring pass from quarterback Kyle Park to flanker Clarence Coleman. The Bulldogs proceeded to increase their lead at the 13:58 mark of the second quarter as Park connected with Coleman on a three-yard TD pass as the hosts held a 17-0 advantage. Tailback Derek Fudge, who ran for a game-high 138 yards on 26 carries, recorded back-to-back rushing TD's from 22 and 44 yards out less than midway through the quarter as the Bulldogs held a commanding 30-point lead. Running back Chris Daniels' 18-yard TD scamper put Findlay on the scoreboard with 25 seconds left to go in the quarter as FSU led 30-7 at the half. The second-half scoring consisted of an exchange in field goals as UF kicker Andy Campbell's 25-yard field goal split the uprights with 9:32 left in the stanza to account for the only points in the third quarter as the Oilers drew within 30-10. Unfortunately, Findlay would get no closer as a 43-yard Perez field goal with 9:21 left to be played capped off a 12-play, 64-yard scoring drive to round out the contest's scoring. Ferris amassed 491 yards in total offense, highlighted by 339 yards through the air, while UF produced a 260-yard offensive total. Park finished the evening with 329 yards and two TD's on 21-of-32 passing and two TD's while Coleman caught a game-best 11 passes for 248 yards and a pair of TD's. Daniels rushed for a team-high 86 yards on 17 attempts to pace the Oilers which outgained the Bulldogs 190 to 152 on the ground. UF outside linebacker Corey Coe garnered a game-leading 14 tackles. Defensively for FSU, outside linebacker Charlie Pierson had 12 stops while defensive tackle William Foster and middle linebacker Luke Piepkow totaled 10 tackles apiece. Free safety Alvin Grier and strong safety J.J. Moreland both notched pass interceptions for seven and 19 yards, respectively.

Did You Know?: Junior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)** is averaging 166.0 yards (332 total) with three TD's in 56 carries in his two contests versus Findlay. Fudge, who has a 5.9 yards per carry average against the Oilers, rushed for 194 yards on 30 attempts in the 2000 game and had 138 yards on 26 carries last season. In its last two meetings against UF, Ferris State has averaged 465.5 yards in total offense (931 total yards) along with 188.5 yards rushing (377 total) and 277.0 yards in passing (554 total).

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ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

2002 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC					OVERALL				
	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA
Grand Valley State	6	0	1.000	256	93	7	0	1.000	280	110
Findlay	6	1	.857	175	163	7	1	.875	212	197
Northern Michigan	6	1	.857	191	154	6	2	.750	208	199
Saginaw Valley State	5	2	.714	291	126	6	2	.750	338	139
Northwood	4	3	.571	199	171	4	4	.500	212	218
Ferris State	3	3	.500	112	124	4	3	.571	145	145
Hillsdale	3	4	.429	201	183	3	5	.375	222	216
Indianapolis	2	5	.286	170	206	3	5	.375	211	209
Wayne State	2	5	.286	205	248	2	6	.250	205	282
Michigan Tech	2	6	.250	172	266	2	6	.250	172	266
Ashland	2	6	.250	143	240	2	7	.222	169	269
Mercyhurst	1	6	.143	83	224	2	6	.250	99	237

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Northern Michigan 49, at Wayne State 46 OT*
 Findlay 25, at Ashland 20*
at Ferris State 24, Saginaw Valley State 3*
 at Indianapolis 40, Mercyhurst 16*
 at Hillsdale 31, Michigan Tech 7*
 at Grand Valley State 33, Northwood 14*

SATURDAY, NOV. 2

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



www.gliac.org

*GLIAC Game
 All Times are Eastern



2002 GLIAC PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1.	Grand Valley State (10)	126
2.	Saginaw Valley State (2)	112
3.	Ferris State	87
	Indianapolis	87
5.	Ashland	86
6.	Michigan Tech	69
7.	Northwood	68
8.	Northern Michigan	43
9.	Hillsdale	42
10.	Findlay	33
11.	Wayne State	22
12.	Mercyhurst	17

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 registered 408 yards in total offense and scored 17 second-half points en route to a 24-3 triumph over ninth-ranked Saginaw Valley State last Saturday before 2,263 fans at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids. Ferris, which won its third straight contest, led 7-0 at halftime after tallying a first-quarter TD as sophomore split end **Andy Thwaites (Stanton/Central Montcalm)** was on the receiving end of sophomore quarterback **Tom Marsan's (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** 22-yard pass. The Bulldogs proceeded to take a 14-point advantage with 10:53 remaining in the third quarter as freshman flanker **Carlton Brewster (Grand Rapids/Creston)** returned a punt 89 yards for a TD. FSU then added to its lead (17-0) on a 27-yard field goal by junior kicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** with 2:24 left to go in the quarter which capped a 15-play, 61-yard scoring drive. The Cardinals managed their only points of the contest at the 12:45 mark in the fourth quarter on junior kicker Eric Houle's 28-yard field goal to get within 17-3. However, Ferris answered with 7:38 remaining as junior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibsonston, Fla./East Bay)** rambled two yards for a TD to cap nine-play, 84-yard scoring drive. **Marsan** completed 17 of 38 passes for 262 yards while freshman split end **Dennis Cartwright (White Cloud)** had six receptions for 133 yards. Sophomore tight end **Austin Malloy (Grand Rapids/Catholic Central)** caught three passes for 41 yards and **Thwaites** had two grabs for 43 yards. FSU outgained SVSU 146-80 on the ground behind Fudge's 31 carries for 115 yards. Senior quarterback Matt LaFleur led the Cardinals with 41 rushing yards and 153 yards passing on a 17-of-38 performance. The Bulldog defense forced six turnovers, which included four interceptions. Sophomore outside linebacker **Rob Mida (Chelsea)** led Ferris with 12 tackles while junior middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** posted 10 stops and senior defensive tackle **Jason Feasel (Ceresco/Battle Creek Harper Creek)** had nine hits. SVSU senior inside linebacker Jason

Battershell recorded a game-high 16 tackles.

GLIAC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: **Jason Feasel** and **Carlton Brewster** were selected this week's GLIAC Defensive and Specialty Teams Players of the Week for their performances last Saturday versus Saginaw Valley State.

Feasel posted a career-high tying nine tackles to spearhead a Bulldog defense which held the nation's second-highest ranked offense to 80 yards rushing. He also totaled four sacks for minus 25 yards to go with a fumble recovery and two quarterback hurries. **Brewster** had five punt returns for a season-high 104 yards (20.8 ypr.) in the contest, highlighted by an 89-yard third-quarter TD return. He also had a 15-yard pass reception in the game.

BULLDOG BITES: Ferris State sports a 29-7 (.806) record in its final three regular season contests per campaign dating back to 1990. The Bulldogs are 16-2 on the road (.889) and 13-5 (.722) at home during that period. FSU is 14-1 (.933) in away contests since 1992, which includes victories in its last four road outings to date.

• **Tom Marsan** needs 282 more passing yards to tie Kyle Park (1998-01; 3,474 yards) for fifth place among Ferris' career passing yardage leaders. Marsan has presently registered 3,192 career passing yards in 16 contests.

• **Derek Fudge's** 115 rushing yards against Saginaw Valley State moved him ahead of Tom Hamlett (1968-71; 2,313 yds.) into fifth place on FSU's all-time rushing leaders list. Fudge, who has recorded 2,382 career yards in 27 contests, is now 361 yards away from tying Chris Pulliams (1993-96; 2,743 yds.) for fourth place.

• Ferris' four interceptions against Saginaw Valley State was one shy of tying the school's single-game record of five pass thefts which was set on seven occasions. The most recent being against Wayne State (9/23/00).

• Freshman cornerback **Justin Sherrod (Wyoming/Park)**, who had an interception and two tackles versus SVSU, will miss the remainder of the season due to broken collarbone. Sophomore tackle **Kevin Park (Goshen, Ind.)** and junior guard **Gino D'Agostino (South Lyon)** will also be sidelined the rest of the campaign due to an injury.

• Junior cornerback **Corey Scheick (Brooklyn/Columbia Central)**, and junior strong safety **Vito Ciaramellano (Rochester Hills/Rochester)** also notched a pass theft in the Saginaw Valley State contest.

• Senior cornerback **DeRen Ellis (Detroit/Harper Woods Notre Dame)**, who presently has three pass interceptions for 70 yards in the last two games, notched his 12th career pass theft last Saturday to move into a three-way tie for third place with Charles Beatty (1986-89; 174 yds.) and Kelly Snell (1995-98; 295 yds.) among Ferris' all-time interception leaders chart. Ellis has accumulated 196 career interception return yards for a 16.3 yards per return average in 35 contests.

• **Tom Marsan's** current 1,655-yard passing total this season represents the 15th best single-season passing output in FSU history. His 1,537 passing yards last season previously ranked 15th highest and the signal-caller is 77 yards shy of tying Doug Arnold's 14th-place 1,732-yard total set in 1989.

UP NEXT: Ferris State will conclude the home portion of its 2002 regular-season slate next Saturday, Nov. 9, as the Bulldogs battle the Ashland Eagles in a GLIAC tilt at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. Opening kickoff for the Senior Day game is 1:30 p.m. (EST).

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. 7	Hillsdale	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Jason Feasel, Specialty-Tom Perez, EPEP-Carlton Brewster
Sept. 21	Northern Michigan	Offense-Brad Newell, Defense-Jason Feasel, Specialty-Jim Skodak, EPEP-Kevin Myers
Sept. 28	Wayne State	Offense-Austin Malloy, Defense-Whitney Bell, Specialty-Dennis Cartwright, EPEP-Matt McCoy
Oct. 5	Northwood	Offense-Tom Marsan, Defense-Alvin Grier, Specialty-Carlton Brewster, EPEP-Luke Piepkow
Oct. 12	Michigan Tech	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Rob Mida, Specialty-Cory Strader, EPEP-Justin Sherrod
Oct. 19	Mercyhurst	Offense-Matt McCoy, Defense-DeRen Ellis, Specialty-Tim Gill, EPEP-Bo Moore
Oct. 26	Saginaw Valley State	Offense-Dennis Cartwright, Defense-Jason Feasel, Specialty-Carlton Brewster, EPEP-Justin Giordano
Nov. 2	Findlay	
Nov. 9	Ashland	
Nov. 16	Indianapolis	