

Football News Release



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HILLSDALE AT FERRIS STATE

SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

ATHLETICS HOTLINE: (231) 591-2375

GAME FACTS

HILLSDALE CHARGERS

(0-0; 0-0 GLIAC)

AT

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS

(0-0; 0-0 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 7 p.m. (EDT)

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

COOKOUT TO BE HELD: The fifth annual Bulldog Pigskin Cookout will be held this Saturday from 5-7 p.m. on the northwest side of the stadium. Cost for the all you can eat barbeque is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

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

THE RECORDS: Ferris State compiled a 7-4 overall mark a season ago while finishing third place in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) standings with a 7-3 conference mark. The Bulldogs were 4-1 at home and 3-3 on the road last fall. Ferris posted a 5-6-0 record in the 2000 campaign, including a 5-5-0 league mark (fifth-place tie). In 1999, FSU was 7-3 overall and conference co-champions (7-2 GLIAC). The Bulldogs have won or shared the conference championship six of the last 10 years, including five straight (1992-96).

Hillsdale registered a 3-8 overall record for the second consecutive season in 2001 under former head coach Dave Dye. The Chargers tied for ninth place in the conference with a 3-7 mark. HC compiled a 3-2 home record and was 0-6 in away outings a season ago.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 8th season, 49-29-0 (.628) — (5-2-0 vs. Hillsdale). Pierce presently has registered a 25-13-0 (.658) coaching mark in home games and is 17-12-0 (.586) in September contests.

HILLSDALE – Keith Otterbein (Hillsdale, 1979), 1st season, 0-0-0 (.000); Career – 10th season 60-39-3 (.603) – (0-0-0 vs. Ferris State).

2002 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS (0-0, 0-0 GLIAC)

Sept. 7	Hillsdale	7 p.m.
Sept. 14	Grand Valley State*	7 p.m.
Sept. 21	at Northern Michigan*	7 p.m.
Sept. 28	Wayne State* (HF)	7 p.m.
Oct. 5	at Northwood*	12 p.m.
Oct. 12	Michigan Tech* (HC)	2 p.m.
Oct. 19	at Mercyhurst*	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 26	Saginaw Valley State*	1:30 p.m.
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 opens the 2002 campaign and its 94th season of varsity competition this Saturday (Sept. 7) evening as the Bulldogs host the Hillsdale College Chargers in a non-league encounter. As part of the Fireworks Night outing, a post-game fireworks display will be conducted immediately after the conclusion of the contest.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce begins his eighth season at Ferris State and has registered a current 49-29-0 career coaching record. Pierce has already made a mark among the school's all-time coaches by posting the best winning percentage (.628) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is 12 wins shy of 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.

ALL-TIME SERIES: Ferris State trails Hillsdale 19-13-1 in their all-time series as both teams will square off for the 34th time this Saturday. FSU has won nine of the last 13 contests, including six of the last eight outings. The Bulldogs are 4-2-0 in their last six home meetings versus the Chargers and have won three of the last four encounters at Big Rapids.

Hillsdale leads 19-13-1		10/11/80 – 10/15/88)	1979	FSU	19-0	H
FSU Scoring Avg.: 14.9 (492 pts.)	Most Points in a FSU Win: 38		1980	HC	7-0	A
HC Scoring Avg.: 20.5 (677 pts.)	(38-21 – 11/3/01)		1981	HC	20-17	H
Differential: +5.6 (Hillsdale)	Most Points in a HC Win:		1982	HC	52-0	A
	52 (52-0 – 10/16/82)		1983	HC	27-14	H
At Big Rapids: HC leads 10-7-0	Most Decisive Score: FSU 19		1984	HC	20-8	A
At Hillsdale: HC leads 9-6-1	(19-0* – 10/13/79); HC 52 (52-0		1985	HC	24-15	A
First Game: HC 44, FSU 0	– 10/16/82)		1986	HC	23-20	H
(9/27/46)	* – Denotes FSU home game		1987	HC	34-15	A
Last FSU Win: 38-21 (11/3/01)			1988	HC	37-10	H
Last HC Win: 23-14* (11/4/00)			1989	FSU	24-22	A
Last Meeting in Big Rapids:			1990	FSU	14-10	H
HC 23, FSU 14* (11/4/00)			1991	FSU	23-16	A
Current Series Win Streak: 1			1992	HC	36-14	H
(FSU 11/3/01)			1993	Tie	13-13	A
Longest Series Win Streak: 5			1994	FSU	14-10	H
(FSU 9/24/94 – 10/31/98); 9 (HC			1995	FSU	17-10	A
1978			1996	FSU	20-7	H
			1997	FSU	35-21	A
			1998	FSU	24-21	H
			1999	HC	40-37	A
			2000	HC	23-14	H
			2001	FSU	38-21	A

LAST MEETING – 2001: Taking advantage of six Hillsdale turnovers, Ferris State won its third straight with a 38-21 triumph over the Chargers at HC's Frank "Muddy" Waters Stadium in Hillsdale, Mich. Three of Ferris' six scores occurred following HC miscues. The Chargers claimed a 7-0 first-quarter lead on a one-yard TD run at 9:13. However, the Bulldogs wasted little time recovering a second-quarter Charger fumble and converting with 11:54 remaining. Quarterback Tom Marsan, who threw for 134 yards and three TD's on 13-of-23 passing, connected with flanker Clarence Coleman on a 10-yard TD pass to tie the contest. HC then went ahead 14-7 on a two-yard TD run at 4:19 before Ferris countered with a TD of its own as tailback Matt Otero scored from a yard out to make the score 14-all at the end of two quarters. FSU controlled the second half as the Bulldogs tallied 17 unanswered third-quarter points to take a 31-14 advantage after three quarters. A one-handed grab by flanker Robert Giles on a 30-yard Marsan pass with 12:09 on the clock in the third quarter gave Ferris a 21-14 lead. The Chargers fumbled on their next possession which enabled FSU to increase its margin to 28-14 on a four-yard toss from Marsan to Coleman at the 10:05 mark. The Bulldogs continued their scoring six minutes later as kicker Tom Perez's 35-yard field goal split the uprights for a 31-14 lead after three quarters. The teams exchanged TD's in the fourth quarter as Coleman was on the receiving end of a nine-yard aerial from quarterback Kyle Park, who completed six-of-10 passes for 50 yards, with 10:54 remaining to put Ferris up 38-14. A Charger nine-yard TD pass play with just over nine minutes to go closed out the scoring. FSU garnered 275 yards in total offense while HC compiled a 336-yard total. Coleman finished with eight receptions for 77 yards and three TD's while tailback Derek Fudge rushed for 73 yards on 14 carries. Outside linebacker Charlie Pierson and free safety Alvin Grier had 10 tackles apiece while outside linebacker Jason Wells chipped in with nine stops. Grier, cornerback Ryan Hodges and free safety Rich Dosh each recorded a pass interception.

– more –

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

2002 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	Pct.	PF PA	W	L	Pct.	PF PA
Michigan Tech	1	0	1.000	30 23	1	0	1.000	30 23
Findlay	0	0	.000	0 0	1	0	1.000	37 34
Indianapolis	0	0	.000	0 0	1	0	.000	41 3
Ferris State	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Grand Valley State	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Hillsdale	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Mercyhurst	0	1	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Northern Michigan	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Northwood	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Saginaw Valley State	0	0	.000	0 0	0	0	.000	0 0
Wayne State	0	0	.000	0 0	0	1	.000	0 34
Ashland	0	1	.000	23 30	0	1	.000	23 30

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Findlay 37, Indiana (Pa.) 34
 at Northern Iowa 34, Wayne State 0
 at Indianapolis 41, St. Joseph's (Ind.) 3
 Michigan Tech 30, at Ashland 23*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 7

Ashland at Edinboro (Pa.), 1 p.m.
 West Virginia Wesleyan at Mercyhurst, 1:30 p.m.
 Northern Michigan at St. Cloud State, 2 p.m.
 California-Davis at Grand Valley State, 7 p.m.
Hillsdale at Ferris State, 7 p.m.
 Saginaw Valley State at Northwood, 7 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.

BULLDOG BITES: Ferris State returns 36 letterwinners from last season with 14 on offense, 20 on defense and two on specialty teams.

Three new assistants on the sidelines this campaign will be **Darrell Perkins** and **Joe Curry**, who replace Cary Marquell and Joe Allgeier, respectively. Perkins, who will coach the defensive backs and serve as special teams coordinator, has spent the last two seasons (2000-01) as a graduate assistant at Purdue University. Curry was the defensive line coach at his alma mater University of St. Francis (Ill.) a year ago. Graduate assistant coach **Shawn Williams** also joins the ranks and was a four-year (1995-98) starter in the Central Michigan University secondary.

Three Hillsdale coaches with FSU ties will be appearing on the sidelines this Saturday. First-year head coach Keith Otterbein spent nine seasons (1986-94) in the same capacity at Ferris and directed the Bulldogs to three consecutive Midwest Intercollegiate Football Conference (predecessor of the GLIAC) titles and three straight NCAA Division II Playoff appearances. HC offensive coordinator Barry Fagan was an assistant at FSU for eight years (1987-95) and defensive coordinator Cary Marquell for one season (2001).

Sophomore quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergeen Park, Ill.)** is 14 passing yards away from moving ahead of Norm Love (1970-72) into 11th place on FSU's all-time passing leaders chart. Last fall, Marsan's 1,537 passing yard total ranked 15th highest among the Bulldogs' career single-season leaders.

Junior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)** needs 59 more yards to tie Benny Roe (1992-95) for 11th place on the school's career rushing leaders list. Fudge, the 2000 GLIAC Freshman of the Year and All-GLIAC Second-Team selection, has totaled 1,776 career yards on 392 carries while Roe accumulated 1,835 career yards on 304 attempts.

Junior kicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** ranked

tied for 26th in field goals per game (0.82 avg.) among the final 2001 NCAA-II national leaders while senior defensive end **Bo Moore (Montrose)** finished in a 19th-place tie in pass sacks (0.91 avg.). Ferris State ranked fifth nationally in punt returns (15.31 avg.) and was 27th in passing offense (253.45 ypg.).

Junior middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** compiled a team-high 110 tackles in 11 outings last season, which was 59 more than recorded in the 2001 campaign (51 tackles in seven games). His father (Ralph) and uncle (Tom Prichard) both played at Ferris State.

SEASON OPENERS: The contest against Hillsdale represents the 92nd season opener for Ferris State since 1900 (no scores available 1912 & 1916). The Bulldogs are 37-49-5 (.434) in season-opening contests and have won seven of their last 13 openers. FSU is 2-5 in such games under head coach Jeff Pierce with the first two being Bulldog victories – 20-13 vs. Ashland (9/9/95) and 26-0 at Ashland (8/29/96). Ferris has since dropped five straight to date – 26-7 vs. Ashland (8/28/97), 17-10 at Winona State (9/5/98), 55-35 at North Dakota State (9/2/99), 24-13 at Indiana, Pa. (9/2/00) and 34-24 at South Dakota State (9/1/01). The last time FSU played host to a season opener was in 1997 (8/28) when the Bulldogs suffered a 26-7 conference loss to Ashland.

HOME OPENERS: Ferris is 37-36-4 (.506) in home openers dating back to 1920, which includes a 7-5-0 mark since 1990. The Bulldogs are 6-3 in their last nine outings. FSU is 8-13-1 in conference openers since 1980 and sports a 4-7 home mark in such games during that period.

BULLDOGS AT HOME: Ferris State is 66-47-2 (.583) at Top Taggart Field since 1980 and sports a 53-36-2 (.593) conference home mark during that span. The Bulldogs are 45-20-2 (.687) overall since 1990, which includes a 40-17-2 (.695) conference mark.

PRESEASON RECOGNITION: **Bo Moore** has been tabbed a 2002 preseason All-America selection by both *Lindy's College Football Annual* and *Don Hansen's National Weekly Football Gazette*. Moore, a second-team preseason honoree by *Hansen's Football Gazette*, was also chosen to the *Detroit Free Press'* All-Michigan Small College Football Team. A season ago, the 2001 All-GLIAC First-Team standout earned honorable mention All-America accolades by *Hansen's Football Gazette* and was a Daktronics Northeast Region Second-Team pick. Joining him on the preseason squad are senior tackle **Justin Giordano (Memphis)**, **Luke Piepkow** and senior cornerback **DeRen Ellis (Detroit/Harper Woods Notre Dame)**. Giordano received first-team all-conference recognition in 2001 while Ellis was named to the second team after attaining first-team laurels the previous campaign.

FSU ON THE INTERNET: Ferris State University Athletics' official web site can be found at www.ferris.edu/sports. The site features information on all of FSU's varsity athletics programs.

CAPTAINS NAMED: The offensive captains for the 2002 campaign are senior fullback **Brad Newell (Decatur)** and **Justin Giordano** while end **Bo Moore** along with free safety **Alvin Grier (Benton Harbor)** will direct the defense.

UP NEXT: Ferris State opens Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) action Saturday, Sept. 14, when the Bulldogs host 2001 NCAA National Championship runner-up and GLIAC Champion the Grand Valley State University Lakers. Starting time is scheduled for 7 p.m. (EDT) at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids.

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	
Sept. 14	Grand Valley State	
Sept. 21	Northern Michigan	
Sept. 28	Wayne State	
Oct. 5	Northwood	
Oct. 12	Michigan Tech	
Oct. 19	Mercyhurst	
Oct. 26	Saginaw Valley State	
Nov. 2	Findlay	
Nov. 9	Ashland	
Nov. 16	Indianapolis	

Home games listed in bold

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