

Football News Release



Joe Gorby
Athletics Communications Director
E-Mail: gorbyj@ferris.edu

Rob Bentley
Assistant Athletics Communications Director
E-Mail: bentleyr@ferris.edu

ATHLETICS HOTLINE: (231) 591-2375

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FERRIS STATE AT INDIANAPOLIS
NOVEMBER 11, 2002

GAME FACTS

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(5-4; 4-4 GLIAC)
AT
INDIANAPOLIS GREYHOUNDS
(4-6; 3-6 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 1 p.m. (EST)

STADIUM/SURFACE: Key Stadium (5,500)/Natural Grass.

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

THE RECORDS: Ferris State improved to 5-4 overall and 4-4 in the GLIAC with a 30-8 conference win over Ashland last Saturday (Nov. 9) in the Bulldogs' regular-season home finale at Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. FSU, which has won four of its last five games, is 1-3 on the road this campaign. Last fall, Ferris finished 7-4 overall, which included a 7-3 mark 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).

Indianapolis is 4-6 overall and 3-6 in GLIAC action as a result of having its two-game winning string snapped following a 50-13 league setback to number-one ranked Grand Valley State last Saturday (Nov. 9) evening at GVSU's Arend D. Lubbers Stadium in Allendale, Mich. The Greyhounds sport a 3-2-0 home mark this season. UI registered a 7-4 overall record in 2001, including a 6-4 GLIAC mark (fourth place).

THE COACHES: **FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce** (Ferris State, 1979), 8th season, 54-33-0 (.621) – (4-1-0 vs. Indianapolis). Pierce is 25-19-0 (.568) on the road, 14-5-0 (.737) in November, 50-27-0 (.649) in GLIAC contests and 5-2-0 (.714) in regular-season finale games.

INDIANAPOLIS – Joe Polizzi (Hillsdale, 1976), 9th season, 46-49-1 (.484) – (1-5-0 vs. Ferris State). Polizzi served two seasons (1986-87) as defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at Ferris State.

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*	L 21-28
Nov. 9	Ashland*	W 30-8
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 conclude its 2002 season this Saturday (Nov. 16) as the Bulldogs tangle with the University of Indianapolis Greyhounds in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) play at Indianapolis, Ind.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce, who has a 54-33-0 career coaching record, has made his mark among the school's all-time coaches by presently having the second best winning percentage (.621) 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 and Indianapolis will square off for the 24th time with Ferris State owning a 14-8-1 series lead. Ferris has won 11 of the last 12 meetings between the two teams and has posted victories in five of its last six outings at Indianapolis. The Bulldogs are averaging 34.6 points (415 total) in its last 12 games while Indianapolis has averaged 16.8 points (201 total) an outing for a +17.8 points differential.

Ferris State leads 14-8-1 FSU Scoring Avg.: 23.0 (552 pts.) UI Scoring Avg.: 18.5 (443 pts.) Differential: +4.5 (FSU)	Longest Series Win Streak: 9 (FSU 9/10/88 – 9/7/96) Most Points in a FSU Win: 54 (54-13 – 10/31/92) Most Points in a UI Win: 47 (47-0* – 9/22/84) Most Decisive Score: FSU 50 (50-0 – 9/16/95); UI 47 (47-0* – 9/22/84) * – Denotes FSU home game ◆ – Two overtimes	1960 FSU 19-0 H 1980 Tie 14-14 A 1982 UI 21-17 H 1983 UI 30-0 A 1984 UI 47-0 H 1985 UI 34-7 A 1986 UI 35-13 H 1987 UI 35-19 A 1988 FSU 34-21 H 1989 FSU 38-21 A 1990 FSU 29-15 A 1991 FSU 21-6 H 1992 FSU 54-13 A 1993 FSU 40-26 H 1994 FSU 44-7 H 1995 FSU 50-0 A 1996 FSU 30-19 H 1997 UI 32-21 A 2000 FSU 38-28 A 2001 FSU 16-13◆ H
At Big Rapids: FSU leads 8-3-0 At Indianapolis: FSU leads 6-5-1 First Game: UI 19, FSU 7 (9/27/46) Last FSU Win: 16-13◆ (11/10/01) Last UI Win: 32-21 (9/6/97) Last Meeting in Indianapolis: FSU 38, UI 28 (11/11/00) Current Series Win Streak: 2	1953 UI 19-7 A 1954 FSU 12-0 H 1959 FSU 29-7 A	

LAST MEETING – 2001: Ferris State's Tom Perez kicked three field goals, including the game winner in the second overtime, as the Bulldogs closed out the 2001 season with a 16-13 victory over Indianapolis at Top Taggart Field. Perez split the uprights from 34 yards out in the second extra session after Ferris defensive end John Hazle intercepted quarterback Kevin Nicolini's pass at the FSU 18-yard line. Ferris then gained eight yards in four plays to set up Perez's heroics. In regulation, the Greyhounds had taken a 6-3 lead going into the fourth quarter after UI kicker Dennis Nisbet kicked a 22-yard field goal at the end of the third quarter. However, the Bulldogs capitalized on their final possession by marching 40 yards on four plays in 19 seconds for a 42-yard field goal attempt by Perez which was successful as time expired to send the contest into overtime knotted at six-all. In the opening overtime session, Ferris started on offense and converted for a score as quarterback Kyle Park hit tight end Matt McCoy in the middle of the field for an 11-yard TD pass play. UI countered with a score on its possession as tailback Chad Schulte hit paydirt from a yard out to tie the game at 13-apiece. Both teams exchanged field goals in the first half as Nisbet nailed a 32-yarder in the opening quarter before Perez answered with a 41-yard boot at 14:11 of the second quarter as the teams were deadlocked at halftime. Both squads combined for 679 yards in total offense with the Bulldogs generating a 443-yard total. Park threw for 361 yards on 30-of-50 passing while flanker Clarence Coleman had 10 receptions for 147 yards. The Greyhounds were led by Schulte's 134 yards rushing on 39 carries and Nicolini's 119 yards on 15-of-34 passing. Linebackers Charlie Pierson and Luke Piepkow were the top tackle leaders for the Bulldogs with 12 stops each while defensive tackles William Foster and Jason Feasel had 10 and nine hits, respectively. For UI, strong safety James Wright's 16 tackles paved the way and inside linebacker Nick Childers contributed with 15 stops and two interceptions for 27 yards.

SEASON FINALES: The Bulldogs are 14-4-0 (.778) in regular-season finale contests dating back to 1985, which includes a 9-3-0 (.750) mark since 1990. Ferris has won its last five regular-season finale road games to date, which includes a 38-28 triumph at Indianapolis two years ago (11/11/00). FSU has registered an 8-2-0 (.800) record in road encounters since 1985.

– more –

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

330 Oak Street, West 025, Big Rapids, MI 49307-2031
Phone 231 591-2336/3821 FAX 231 591-3775
www.ferris.edu/sports

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

2002 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	Pct.	PF PA	W	L	Pct.	PF PA
Grand Valley State	8	0	1.000	368 130	9	0	1.000	392 147
Findlay	8	1	.889	238 198	9	1	.900	275 232
Saginaw Valley State	7	2	.778	367 170	8	2	.800	414 183
Northern Michigan	6	3	.667	273 221	6	4	.600	286 268
Northwood	6	3	.667	228 216	6	4	.600	245 261
Ferris State	4	4	.500	163 160	5	4	.556	196 181
Indianapolis	3	6	.333	218 270	4	6	.400	259 273
Hillsdale	3	6	.333	265 318	3	7	.300	265 352
Wayne State	3	6	.333	235 266	3	7	.300	256 299
Michigan Tech	3	7	.300	229 312	3	7	.300	229 312
Ashland	2	8	.200	165 305	2	9	.182	191 334
Mercyhurst	1	8	.111	136 319	2	8	.200	152 332

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Northwood 33, at Michigan Tech 23*
 at Wayne State 33, Mercyhurst 29*
 Saginaw Valley State 28, at Northern Michigan 24*
at Ferris State 30, Ashland 8*
 Findlay 35, at Hillsdale 14*
 at Grand Valley State 50, Indianapolis 13*



www.gliac.org

*GLIAC Game
 All Times are Eastern



SATURDAY, NOV. 16

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

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 snapped a three-game series losing streak to Ashland last Saturday as a result of a 30-8 conference victory in the Bulldogs' regular-season home finale at Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. Junior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)** had 250 total yards and scored twice as Ferris held a 412-to-217-yard advantage in total offense. **Fudge** finished the contest with a game-high 190 yards rushing on 28 carries and caught a team-best six passes for 60 yards. The Bulldogs opened the scoring with 12 minutes remaining in the first quarter on a 34-yard field goal by junior kicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** to take a 3-0 lead after the first 15 minutes. Ferris proceeded to claim a 9-0 halftime lead as **Fudge** scored on a one-yard run to cap off an eight-play, 95-yard scoring drive with 4:34 left to go in the second quarter. FSU widened its advantage in the second half with 14 unanswered points to lead 23-0 after three quarters of play. Sophomore quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** hit junior split end **Jessie Porter (Shepherd)** on an eight-yard scoring strike with 9:10 remaining in the stanza to finish a 12-play, 74-yard march. The Bulldogs then scored again less than five minutes later at the 4:24 mark as **Fudge** scampered 45 yards to the end zone. Ashland netted its only points at 10:23 of the fourth quarter on sophomore quarterback John Szabo's five-yard TD toss to freshman wide receiver Trent Seay. However, Ferris scored again on a three-yard TD run by sophomore tailback **Andrew Terry (Kentwood/Grand Rapids Creston)** with 45 seconds left to account for the final margin. **Terry** added 49 yards on 11 carries while **Marsan** completed 18-of-34 passes for 169 yards. Freshman split end **Brandis Bowie (Lansing/Sexton)** chipped in with four receptions for 35 yards. Szabo was 20-of-35 in passing for 163 yards for the Eagles, who received a seven catch, 69-yard receiving performance from senior flanker Kevin McMahon. FSU's defense, which limited the visitors to 54 yards rushing, was paced by sophomore outside linebacker **Kevin Myers (Midland)** game-high tying 15 tackles. Senior free safety **Alvin Grier**

(Benton Harbor) posted 10 stops while sophomore defensive tackle **Whitney Bell (Sault Ste. Marie/Sault Area)** had eight hits. Senior cornerback **DeRen Ellis (Detroit/Harper Woods Notre Dame)** and junior strong safety **Vito Ciaramellano (Rochester Hills/Rochester)** each had a pass interception return of 31 and 18 yards, respectively.

BULLDOG BITES: **DeRen Ellis** moved into third place on the Bulldogs' career interception leaders list after picking off an Ashland pass in Saturday's contest. With the pass theft, Ellis has 13 career interceptions for 227 yards in 37 outings to date and is three away from tying Monty Brown (1989-92) for second place. Brown totaled 16 career pass thefts for 62 yards.

Ferris State's defense has held its opponents to under 100 yards rushing in a game five times this season after limiting Ashland to a Ferris season-best 54 yards on the ground last Saturday. The previous best this campaign was 71 yards rushing by Hillsdale (9/7) and Mercyhurst (10/19).

Tom Marsan currently ranks fifth among FSU's all-time passing yardage leaders with 3,757 career passing yards and is averaging 208.7 yards per game on a 53.0 (305-576) career completion percentage in 18 contests. Marsan trails Doug Arnold (1989-92; 6,805 yds.) by 3,048 yards for fourth place on the career chart.

Derek Fudge is 56 rushing yards shy from tying Chris Pulliams (1993-96; 2,743 yds.) for fourth place among Ferris' career rushing leaders. Fudge has rushed for 2,687 career rushing yards in 29 games for an average of 92.7 yards on the ground per game. Fudge is also 89 rushing yards away from attaining the 1,000-yard mark for the second time in his career and has compiled 13 100-yard plus single-game efforts in his career. He presently ranks 15th on Ferris' single-season rushing leaders list and is 33 yards away from tying Dave Gagnon (1973; 944 yds.) for 14th place. Fudge's 190-yard output versus Ashland marked his third straight 100-yard plus single-game rush performance of this season.

Jesse Porter's eight-yard TD reception vs. Ashland was the first of his collegiate career. He has 10 catches for 98 yards in 27 career games.

Alvin Grier surpassed the 300th career tackle mark last Saturday versus Ashland and presently has 303 total stops (182 solo) in 41 career games. He's averaging 7.3 tackles an outing for his FSU career.

Tom Perez eclipsed the 100-point mark in his career against Ashland with six points in the game. To date, Perez has compiled 46 points in nine outings this campaign after recording 58 points in 11 contests a season ago and has accumulated 104 current career points in 23 games.

Tom Marsan's current 2,220 yards passing this season marks FSU's ninth highest single-season passing performance in the program's history. Marsan, who's 1,537 passing yards a season ago previously ranked 15th best, is within 24 yards of tying Dave DenBraber's eighth-place 2,244-passing yard total set in 1985.

Kevin Myers has notched double figures in tackles six times this campaign, including his last two contests - 16 at Findlay (11/2) and 15 against Ashland (11/9). Myers, who has seven career double-digit game tackle efforts, garnered a career-high 17 stops at Northwood earlier this season (10/5).

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*).

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 Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Luke Piepkow, Specialty-Frank Sherrod, EPEP-Dennis Cartwright
 Nov. 9 **Ashland** Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Michael King, Specialty-Brad Morris, EPEP-Vito Ciaramellano
 Nov. 16 Indianapolis