

Football News Release

S-4

FERRIS STATE AT NORTHWOOD
SEPTEMBER 30, 2002



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GAME FACTS

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(1-2; 0-2 GLIAC)
AT

NORTHWOOD TIMBERWOLVES
(1-3; 1-2 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 12 p.m. (EDT)
STADIUM/SURFACE: Hantz
Stadium(3,000)/Natural Grass.

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

THE RECORDS: Ferris State is 1-2 overall and 0-2 in the GLIAC after suffering a 36-21 conference setback to Wayne State last Saturday (Sept. 28) in the third annual FSU Hall of Fame Game at Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. A season ago, Ferris compiled a 7-4 overall mark and finished third in the GLIAC standings at 7-3. 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).

Northwood, which is 1-3 overall and 1-2 in the GLIAC, dropped its second straight conference contest with a 17-14 loss to Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 28) at MC's Louis J. Tullio Field in Erie, Pa. The Timberwolves' lone win of this season was a 32-7 league decision at Ashland (Sept. 14). NU registered a 3-6 record both overall and in the GLIAC (seventh-place tie) a season ago. The Timberwolves compiled a 2-2 home mark last season.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 8th season, 50-31-0 (.617) – (6-1-0 vs. Northwood). Pierce is 24-17-0 (.585) in away games, 18-10-0 (.643) in October and 46-25-0 (.648) in GLIAC contests to date.

NORTHWOOD – Pat Riepma (Hillsdale, 1983), 10th season, 45-50-2 (.474) – (1-8-0 vs. 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*	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 will square off against the Northwood University Timberwolves this Saturday (Oct. 5) in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) action at Midland, Mich.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce is presently in his eighth season at Ferris State and has registered a current 50-31-0 career coaching record. Pierce has already made a mark among the school's all-time coaches by presently having the second best winning percentage (.617) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is 11 wins away of becoming FSU's winningest 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 has a 15-13-0 series advantage over Northwood in a series which commenced in 1972. FSU has currently won 13 of the last 15 meetings, including nine of the past 10 outings, after NU was victorious in 11 of the previous 13 contests. Ferris is averaging 37.5 points per game (563 total) in the last 15 games. The Bulldogs are 7-2 at Northwood in their last nine appearances and have averaged 35.7 points a game to NU's 19.3 (+16.4) during that span.

Ferris State leads 15-13-0
FSU Scoring Avg.: 25.2 (706 pts.)
NU Scoring Avg.: 20.4 (570 pts.)
Differential: +4.8 (FSU)

At Midland: FSU leads 8-7-0
At Big Rapids: FSU leads 7-6-0
First Game: FSU 20, NU 3*
(10/28/72)

Last FSU Win: 32-29* (9/29/01)
Last NU Win: 35-21 (9/26/98)

Last Meeting in Midland:
FSU 28, NU 14 (9/30/00)

Current Series Win Streak: 3
(FSU 9/25/99 – 9/29/01)

Longest Series Win Streak: 6
(NU 1973-78) & (FSU 1992-97)

Most Points in a FSU Win: 56
(56-14 – 10/21/95)

Most Points in a NU Win:
40 (40-27* – 10/21/78)

Most Decisive Score: FSU 42
(56-14 – 10/21/95); NU 27 (51-24
– 10/28/89)

* – Denotes FSU home game

1979	FSU	17-7	A
1980	NU	16-6	H
1981	NU	13-10	A
1982	NU	27-14	H
1983	NU	38-14	A
1984	NU	21-0	H
1985	FSU	38-20	A
1986	FSU	35-29	H
1987	FSU	43-13	A
1988	FSU	37-6	H
1989	NU	51-24	A
1992	FSU	33-10	A
1993	FSU	47-0	A
1994	FSU	52-16	H
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
2001	FSU	32-29	H

LAST MEETING – 2001: Ferris State tallied 25 unanswered second-half points, including 19 straight in the third quarter, to claim a 32-29 victory over Northwood in front of a Top Taggart Field crowd of 2,683. NU built a 21-7 halftime advantage with a pair of TD's on two FSU miscues. Fullback Bryant Lawrence's two-yard TD plunge with 7:06 remaining in the opening quarter gave the Timberwolves an early lead before the Bulldogs answered in the second quarter at 13:59 when quarterback Tom Marsan connected with tight end Matt McCoy on an 11-yard TD pass. NU broke the deadlock minutes later as Marsan's pass went through the hands of split end Clarence Coleman right to cornerback Martell Foster, who returned the ball 44 yards for a TD as the Timberwolves surged ahead 14-7 with 11 minutes left before halftime. NU then caught another break when Coleman fielded the ensuing kickoff, but fumbled near midfield where Northwood recovered the ball. A play later, quarterback Jason Martin found wide receiver Ron Hunter wide open behind the FSU secondary as the pair connected on a 48-yard TD strike. Ferris rallied in the second half as the Bulldogs scored four times in a row to take a 32-21 lead with the final tally occurring with 12:40 remaining in the game on tailback Matt Otero's two-yard TD rush. Trailing 21-7 at the half, Coleman picked up a rolling NU punt and broke loose for an 88-yard TD at the third quarter's 12:15 mark. A few minutes later, cornerback DeRen Ellis scooped up a blocked Timberwolves' 39-yard field goal attempt and dashed 55 yards for the score to draw the Bulldogs within 21-19. FSU capitalized on another NU turnover as a Timberwolves' center snap sailed over the punter into the end zone where free safety Rich Dosh recovered the ball. Dosh's three-yard fumble recovery at 1:52 gave the Bulldogs their first lead of the game (26-21). Ferris' offense was on the field for just three seconds in the third quarter. Following Otero's TD early in the fourth quarter, the Timberwolves closed to within 32-29 with 5:15 left as Martin scored on a two-yard keeper and then was successful on a two-point conversion pass. Ferris, which held a 270 to 268-yard edge in total offense, was paced by Otero's game-high 144 yards rushing on 27 carries while split end Lamar Patterson had a game-best eight receptions for 95 yards. Marsan was 14-of-30 in passing for 135 yards. Outside linebacker Charlie Pierson posted a game-high 14 tackles while defensive end Bo Moore and middle linebacker Luke Piepkow had nine tackles apiece. Outside linebacker Kevin Myers totaled eight stops.

– more –

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ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

2002 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC					OVERALL				
	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA
Saginaw Valley State	3	0	1.000	138	48	4	0	1.000	185	61
Findlay	3	0	1.000	93	61	4	0	1.000	130	95
Grand Valley State	2	0	1.000	93	33	3	0	1.000	117	50
Northern Michigan	3	0	1.000	78	20	3	1	.750	95	65
Michigan Tech	2	2	.500	106	124	2	2	.500	106	124
Indianapolis	1	2	.333	58	73	2	2	.500	99	76
Mercyhurst	1	2	.333	31	102	2	2	.500	47	115
Hillsdale	1	2	.333	73	75	1	3	.250	94	108
Northwood	1	2	.333	63	42	1	3	.250	76	89
Wayne State	1	2	.333	71	103	1	3	.250	71	137
Ferris State	0	2	.000	24	53	1	2	.333	57	74
Ashland	0	4	.000	57	151	0	5	.000	83	180

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Findlay 42, Michigan Tech 23*
 Saginaw Valley State 52, at Ashland 20*
 at Mercyhurst 17, Northwood 14*
 Northern Michigan 24, at Indianapolis 10*
Wayne State 36, at Ferris State 21*
 at Grand Valley State 44, Hillsdale 19*

SATURDAY, OCT. 5

Ferris State at Northwood*, 12 p.m.
 Indianapolis at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m.
 Grand Valley State at Michigan Tech*, 12 p.m.
 Ashland at Wayne State*, 12 p.m.
 Hillsdale at Northern Michigan*, 1 p.m.
 Findlay 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: Wayne State scored 33 straight second-half points to erase a 21-3 halftime deficit while holding Ferris State to 56 yards rushing as the Warriors notched a 36-21 victory last Saturday night in the third annual FSU Hall of Fame Game before a Top Taggart Field crowd of 2,682. WSU, which snapped a four-game series losing streak, reeled off 19 unanswered third-quarter points to claim a 22-21 lead after 45 minutes of action as a 32-yard pass play from sophomore quarterback Randy Hutchison to sophomore wideout Lynn Morton with 2:02 remaining in the quarter accounted for the winning margin. The Warriors' other third-quarter points came on a five-yard TD run by senior wingback Nate Collins and a 22-yarder from senior running back Thabiti Williamson. WSU widened its margin in the fourth quarter with a pair of TD's - a 15-yard Hutchison pass to Collins and a 37-yard run by Hutchison with 13 seconds remaining. The Bulldogs had led 14-3 after the first quarter thanks to a five-yard TD run by sophomore quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** at the 10:14 mark and with 18 seconds left in the quarter, **Marsan** connected with freshman flanker **Carlton Brewster (Grand Rapids/Creston)** on a 26-yard TD aerial. A 37-yard field goal by sophomore kicker Stephen Wayne had given the visitors a 3-0 lead three minutes into the contest. Ferris proceeded to increase its lead to 21-3 with 2:51 left before halftime as sophomore tight end **Austin Malloy (Grand Rapids/Catholic Central)**, who had three catches for 101 yards, was on the receiving end of a 30-yard **Marsan** pass. The Warriors' offense generated 441 yards to the Bulldogs' 329 yards. **Marsan** completed 14-of-35 passes for 273 yards and two TD's while Hutchison threw for 140 yards and two TD's on 10-of-12 passing. Lynn Morton totaled 108 receiving yards on four receptions to pace the Warriors' receivers. Sophomore outside linebacker **Rob Mida (Chelsea)** compiled a game-high 15 tackles and junior middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** had 13 stops. Senior free safety **Alvin Grier (Benton Harbor)** chipped in with nine tackles and recorded an

interception.

BULLDOG BITES: **Austin Malloy** posted his first collegiate pass reception in the Wayne State game and finished with a team-high tying three catches for a team-leading 101 yards, which included a 30-yard TD reception in the second quarter.

Tom Marsan registered his sixth 200-yard plus single-game passing performance of his career versus Wayne State with a season-high 273-yard effort, representing the third highest game output of his career. In his two career appearances against WSU, Marsan has thrown for a combined 607 yards (303.5 ypg.) on 34-of-73 passing (46.6%) with six TD's.

Marsan, who has thrown for 2,205 career yards in 12 games to date, is 12 yards shy of tying Charlie Gunsell (1995-98; 2,217 yds.) for ninth place among FSU's career passing leaders. Marsan passed for a 1,537-yard total a season ago which ranks 15th highest all-time among Ferris' single-season leaders.

Junior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)** moved into a tie for eighth place with Jerome Metz (1976-79) on FSU's all-time rushing leaders chart following his 42-yard rush performance in last Saturday's contest. Fudge has totaled 2,036 career yards on 458 carries in 23 games while Metz ran for 2,036 yards on 413 career attempts. Fudge, the 2000 GLIAC Freshman of the Year after setting the conference rushing mark with 1,161 yards (116.2 ypg.), is 22 yards shy of tying Dave Gagnon (1970-73; 2,058 yds.) for seventh place.

Luke Piepkow garnered the ninth double-digit single-game tackle performance of his career with 13 stops vs. Wayne State Saturday. His tackle output matches his second highest total set last season (10/13) at Mercyhurst. He's nine tackles away from recording the 200th of his career in 21 appearances.

Alvin Grier's interception in the Wayne State game represented his 10th career pass theft and is now tied with Akil Young (1991-94) for fifth place on the program's career leaders chart. Grier, who had a 32-yard interception return, has amassed 143 interception return yards (14.3 ypr.) during his career.

Rob Mida set a personal career high vs. Wayne State after totaling 15 tackles (seven solo) in the contest. He had compiled a previous best five stops apiece in each of his first two outings this campaign.

Freshman split end **Dennis Cartwright (White Cloud)** turned in a noteworthy effort against Wayne State with four kickoff returns for 120 yards (30.0 ypr.) and two receptions for 27 yards (13.5 ypr.).

WAIT UNTIL NEXT SEASON: A pair of redshirt freshmen, strong safety **Kyle Myers (Ypsilanti/Belleville)**, and guard **Mark Miller (Johannesburg/Gaylord St. Mary's)**, will miss the remainder of the 2002 season. Myers suffered an injury last Saturday and Miller due to illness.

PRESEASON RECOGNITION: **Bo Moore** has been tabbed a 2002 preseason All-America selection by *Lindy's College Football Annual* and *Don Hansen's National Weekly Football Gazette*. Moore, a second-team pre-season honoree by *Hansen's Football Gazette*, was also chosen to the *Detroit Free Press'* All-Michigan Small College Football Team. Joining him on the preseason squad are senior tackle **Justin Giordano (Memphis)**, **Luke Piepkow** and **DeRen Ellis**.

UP NEXT: Ferris State hosts the Michigan Tech University Huskies Saturday, Oct. 12, in GLIAC play at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. Opening kickoff for Ferris' 76th Homecoming Game is slated for 2 p.m. (EDT) and represents the second straight year in which MTU has served as the Bulldogs' homecoming opponent.

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	
Oct. 12	Michigan Tech	
Oct. 19	Mercyhurst	
Oct. 26	Saginaw Valley State	
Nov. 2	Findlay	
Nov. 9	Ashland	
Nov. 16	Indianapolis	