

Football News Release



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**FINDLAY AT FERRIS STATE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2004**

GAME FACTS

**FINDLAY OILERS
(3-2; 2-2 GLIAC)
AT**

**FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(4-1; 4-1 GLIAC)**

KICKOFF: 7 p.m. (EDT)

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

TICKET INFORMATION: \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Free for FSU students with ID. Call (231) 591-2888 for more information.

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

THE RECORDS: Ferris State extended its winning string to four with a 31-28 conference triumph over Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 25) at MC's Tullio Field in Erie, Pa. A season ago, Ferris posted a 6-5 overall mark and finished tied for fourth place in the GLIAC standings at 5-5. The Bulldogs were 3-2 at home and 3-3 on the road last fall. FSU has posted a winning season in 10 of the last 15 campaigns. Ferris has won or shared the conference championship six of the last 12 years, including five straight (1992-96).

Findlay dropped its second straight contest with a 31-24 conference home loss to nationally-ranked Northwood last Saturday (Sept. 25) at UF's Donnell Stadium in Findlay, Ohio. UF, which started out this campaign winning its first three games, was 6-5 overall with a fourth-place tying 5-5 GLIAC mark last season.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – **Jeff Pierce** (Ferris State, 1979), 10th season, 64-40-0 (.615) — (4-2-0 vs. Findlay). Pierce is 33-17-0 (.660) at home, 59-34-0 (.634) in GLIAC games and 23-13-0 (.639) in October contests during his coaching career. **FINDLAY – Dan Simrell** (Toledo, 1966), 5th season, 23-25-0 (.479); Career – 13th season, 73-62-2 (.540) – (1-3-0 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.

2004 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Aug. 28	Grand Valley State*	L 6-24
Sept. 4	at Ashland*	W 23-17 OT
Sept. 11	Hillsdale*	W 21-7
Sept. 18	at Indianapolis*	W 24-14
Sept. 25	at Mercyhurst*	W 31-28
Oct. 2	Findlay* (HF)	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	at North Dakota	2 p.m.
Oct. 16	at Northern Michigan*	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	Michigan Tech* (HC)	2 p.m.
Oct. 30	at Northwood*	12 p.m.
Nov. 6	Saginaw Valley State*	1 p.m.

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

THE GAME: The Ferris State University football team, which is off to its best start since 1999, will put its current four-game winning streak on the line this Saturday (Oct. 2) evening against The University of Findlay Oilers in a Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) tilt at Big Rapids, Mich. The contest also represents Ferris' fifth annual Hall of Fame contest.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Tenth-year head coach Jeff Pierce became Ferris State's all-time winningest coach as a result of the Bulldogs' 23-17 overtime conference victory at Ashland this season (Sept. 4). The 1995 GLIAC Coach of the Year surpassed Keith Otterbein (60-39-3, 1986-94) for the top honor and .615 winning percentage ranks second on the school's all-time charts to only Wallie Hein's (1924-26) .625 (12-7-1). 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 Findlay 9-7-0 in a series which began in 1934 (10/27) with the Bulldogs dropping a 12-6 road decision. UF was victorious in the first six meetings, but FSU has posted wins in six of the last eight to date. The Bulldogs have a present four-game home winning string versus the Oilers. In those four home outings, Ferris is averaging 38.3 points (153 total) to Findlay's 16.5 (66 total) for a +21.8-point differential. Thirteen of the 16 meetings have been decided by 14 points or more.

Findlay leads 9-7-0	Longest Series Win Streak: 6	1963	UF	21-6	H
FSU Scoring Avg.: 18.3 (292 pts.)	(UF 10/27/34 – 10/8/66); 3 (FSU	1964	UF	47-0	A
UF Scoring Avg.: 21.0 (336 pts.)	9/18/99 – 9/8/01)	1965	UF	27-0	H
Differential: +2.7 (UF)	Most Points in a FSU Win: 56	1966	UF	20-0	A
At Big Rapids: Tied at 4-4-0	(56-14 – 9/18/99)	1968	FSU	36-16	A
At Findlay: UF leads 5-3-0	Most Points in a UF Win: 47	1969	UF	20-3	H
First Game: UF 12, FSU 6	(47-0 – 10/10/64)	1970	FSU	21-7	A
(10/27/34)	Most Decisive Score: FSU 42	1971	FSU	28-13	H
Last FSU Win: 36-29* (11/1/03)	(56-14 – 9/18/99) UF 47 (47-0 –	1998	UF	24-7	A
Last UF Win: 28-21 (11/2/02)	10/10/64)	1999	FSU	56-14	H
Last Meeting in Big Rapids:	* – Denotes FSU home game	2000	FSU	33-15	A
FSU 36, UF 29* (11/1/03)		2001	FSU	33-10	H
Current Series Win Streak: 1		2002	UF	28-21	A
(FSU 11/1/03)		2003	FSU	36-29	H
	1934 UF 12-6 A				
	1935 UF 33-6 H				

LAST MEETING – 2003: Ferris State tailback Derek Fudge ran for a game-high 185 yards and scored two TD's while flanker Carlton Brewster caught seven passes for 124 yards to go with two scores as the Bulldogs handed the Findlay Oilers a 36-29 conference setback at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. Trailing 12-0 after the opening quarter, Ferris State proceeded to score 29 unanswered second-quarter points to claim a 29-12 halftime lead. The Bulldogs' first two scores of the game occurred on pass plays of 54 and 27 yards, respectively from quarterback Tom Marsan to Brewster at 14:50 and 9:08 of the quarter with the latter putting the hosts up 15-12. Ferris then widened its lead with another pair of TD's as Fudge, who had a game-best 183 yards rushing on 27 carries, scored on a one-yard run with 5:19 remaining before the half and then the Bulldogs hit pay-dirt again just 52 seconds to go in the quarter as Marsan tallied on a three-yard keeper. Findlay came back in the third quarter with 10 straight points to slice the deficit at 29-22 on kicker Jeff Pax's second field goal of the day, a 36-yarder, and tailback Michael Simpson caught a 24-yard TD aerial from quarterback Kevin Crooks at 7:44 to draw within seven points. FSU then went back up 36-22 on Fudge's 11-yard scoring run at 2:42 of the third quarter before the Oilers struck again with 6:57 remaining in the contest on a Crooks' seven-yard TD pass to wide receiver Jeff Rowe. The Bulldogs finished with 432 yards in total offense to Findlay's 412-yard total. Marsan was 14-of-24 in the passing department for 214 yards while Crooks completed the day with a 215-yard performance on 19-of-29 passing. Outside linebacker Kevin Myers claimed a game-high 23 tackles while defensive tackle Whitney Bell chipped in with 18 stops and middle linebacker Luke Piepkow had 15. Free safety Rich Dosh and strong safety Vito Ciaramellano added 14 and 10 stops, respectively.

INTERNET COVERAGE: All 2004 Ferris State football games can be heard live on the internet through an agreement with FSU Athletics and local radio affiliate WBRN. The link is located on Ferris' Athletics homepage website (www.ferris.edu/sports). Listeners who click on the Bulldog Athletics' webcast icon will be directed to the site at www.ferris.edu/sports/bulldogwebcasts.

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2004 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	Pct.	PF PA	W	L	Pct.	PF PA
Northwood	4	0	1.000	181 72	5	0	1.000	226 90
Michigan Tech	4	0	1.000	167 43	4	0	1.000	167 43
Grand Valley State	4	0	1.000	144 39	4	0	1.000	144 39
Ferris State	4	1	.800	105 90	4	1	.800	105 90
Saginaw Valley State	3	1	.750	139 62	3	1	.750	139 62
Findlay	2	2	.500	117 92	3	2	.600	157 113
Gannon	2	3	.400	155 185	2	3	.400	155 185
Hillsdale	2	3	.400	131 158	2	3	.400	131 158
Ashland	1	3	.250	60 130	2	3	.400	108 137
Wayne State	1	3	.250	40 154	1	3	.250	40 154
Mercyhurst	1	4	.200	147 211	1	4	.200	147 211
Northern Michigan	1	4	.200	91 189	1	4	.200	91 189
Indianapolis	0	5	.000	97 149	0	5	.000	97 149

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Saginaw Valley State 35, Hillsdale 14*
Ferris State 31, at Mercyhurst 28*
 Wayne State 24, at Indianapolis 21 OT*
 Northwood 31, at Findlay 24*
 Michigan Tech 51, at Ashland 14*
 Gannon 45, at Northern Michigan 40*

SATURDAY, OCT. 2

Indianapolis at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m.
 Grand Valley State at Wayne State*, 12 p.m.
 Mercyhurst at Ashland*, 1 p.m.
 Michigan Tech at Gannon*, 1 p.m.
Findlay at Ferris State*, 7 p.m.
 Northwood at Hillsdale*, 7 p.m.

LAST WEEK: Ferris State won its fourth consecutive contest as the Bulldogs registered a come-from-behind 31-28 conference win over Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 25) afternoon before a Lakers' Homecoming crowd of 3,257 fans at MC's Tullio Field in Erie, Pa. Senior tailback **Andrew Terry (Kentwood/Grand Rapids Creston)** accounted for the game-winning score on a two-yard TD run with 10:39 remaining in the contest to complete a six-play, 69-yard scoring drive. Mercyhurst had taken a 28-24 lead with 13:10 left in the game before the Bulldogs countered on their ensuing possession. The Lakers reeled off 14 straight second-half points after Ferris went up 24-14 on junior quarterback **Ryan Kaul's (Clarkston)** nine-yard TD run at the third quarter's 12:21 mark. **Kaul** would finish the day by running for two scores while throwing for a career-high 257 yards and a TD on 11-of-24 passing. MC, which trailed most of the game, was down 7-0 at 5:37 of the opening quarter as **Kaul** tallied on a three-yard keeper. However, the Lakers tied the contest late in the quarter when a bad snap from center on a FSU punt was recovered in the end zone by MC's Mark Watson. The Lakers then went ahead 14-7 at 14:14 of the second quarter when Marcus Patton blocked a Bulldog punt and returned the ball 42 yards for the score. But, Ferris answered by driving 67 yards on seven plays culminating in a **Kaul** 33-yard pass to senior split end **Andy Thwaites (Stanton/Central Montcalm)** with just under 11 minutes left in the frame. A 27-yard field goal by freshman kicker **Ben Keur (Muskegon/Oakridge)** with 36 seconds remaining in the half gave the Bulldogs a 17-14 halftime advantage. Ferris, which generated 446 yards in total offense, received a career-high 178 rushing yards on 26 carries from **Terry** while junior flanker **Carlton Brewster (Grand Rapids/Creston)** contributed by averaging 34.4 yards per reception with 172 yards on five catches. **Brewster** also had four kickoff returns for 126 yards. Senior defensive tackle **Whitney Bell (Sault Ste. Marie/Sault Area)** and sophomore middle linebacker **Mike Klobucher (Grand Haven/North Muskegon)** each recorded 10 tackles for a FSU defense, which held the Lakers to eight net yards rushing and 36 total yards in the first half. **Bell** also produced four pass sacks for minus 29 yards while **Klobucher** notched a pass interception. Senior outside linebacker **Kevin Myers (Midland)** contributed with eight stops.

BULLDOG BITES: Ferris State's 4-1 start this season represents its best since 1999 when the Bulldogs lost their season opener at North Dakota State (9/2) before winning their next five contests. FSU went on to register a 7-3 overall record and were GLIAC co-champions with a 7-2 league mark.

FSU's current four-game winning streak represents its longest since 2001 when the Bulldogs closed out the season with victories in their last four outings. Ferris compiled a 7-4 overall record to go with a third-place 7-3 conference ledger in the 2001 campaign.

Andrew Terry has rushed for over 100 yards in each of his last three

games to date. **Terry** ran for a career-best 178 yards at Mercyhurst after compiling 127 yards at Indianapolis (9/18) and 117 against Hillsdale (9/11). He's averaging 140.7 yards per outing (422 total yds.) during the three-game span. **Terry**, who has 904 career rushing yards on 215 attempts in 30 contests, is 96 yards shy of reaching the 1,000-yard career rushing plateau.

Ferris State's defense has allowed a combined 75 yards rushing (37.5 ypg.) in its last two contests after giving up a combined 530-yard total (176.7 ypg.) in the previous three games. FSU held Mercyhurst to eight net yards on the ground which represented its best rush defensive effort since a season ago (10/18), three net yards in a 33-7 home triumph over Mercyhurst.

Ryan Kaul's 257 passing yards (11-24) at Mercyhurst marked a personal career best, eclipsing his 206 yards (15-21) versus Hillsdale (9/11). **Kaul** has thrown for over 145 yards in each of his last four outings this campaign.

Carlton Brewster posted his fourth 100-yard plus receiving performance of this season with 172 yards at Mercyhurst. **Brewster** is averaging 15.2 yards per catch with 730 total yards on 48 receptions this fall. **Brewster's** receiving yard total this campaign presently ranks 15th among Ferris' single-season leaders and is eight yards shy of tying **Andre Johnson's** 14th-place 738 yards on 42 catches (17.6 ypr.) set in 1988.

With his 10 tackles at Mercyhurst, **Mike Klobucher** has tallied double digits in tackles all five games this season. He's presently averaging 11.6 stops an outing, which includes an average of 8.8 (44 total) solo hits.

Kevin Myers, a preseason All-America selection by *Street & Smith's*, *Don Hansen's Football Gazette* and *D2Football.com*, is within five tackles of tying **Charles Anderson** (1995-98; 376 career stops) for seventh place on FSU's all-time tackles leaders list. **Myers** has compiled 371 career stops (220 solos) in 36 contests and is averaging 10.3 career tackles per game.

Senior defensive end **John Hazle (St. Johns)** was credited with a half sack at Mercyhurst, moving him into a tie for 13th place with **Jim Lyman** (1995-98) among the Bulldogs' career pass sack leaders. **Hazle** has 15.0 career sacks for 100 yards while **Lyman** totaled 76 yards on the identical sack total.

Andy Thwaites has recorded a touchdown catch in each of his last three games to date. **Thwaites' three TD's** in five outings this campaign equals his previous season-high total established in 10 2002 contests.

BELL NAMED CONFERENCE DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Whitney Bell has been named this week's GLIAC Defensive Player of the Week following his 10-tackle output (seven solos) at Mercyhurst. **Bell** had five tackles for a loss of 33 yards, which included four sacks for minus 29 yards.

HALL OF FAME GAMES: The Bulldogs are 1-4-0 in their annual Hall of Fame game which started in the 2000 season (9/23) with a 51-30 victory over Wayne State. Ferris has since dropped its last three Hall of Fame contests - 63-17 to Grand Valley State (10/6/01), 36-21 to Wayne State (9/28/02) and 26-14 to Northern Michigan last season (9/20).

UP NEXT: Ferris State takes on nationally-ranked North Dakota Fighting Sioux Saturday, Oct. 9, in non-conference play at Grand Forks, N.D. Kickoff is slated for 2 p.m. (EDT) at UND's Alerus Center in what represents the first-ever meeting between the two schools.

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
Aug. 28	Grand Valley State	Offense-Carlton Brewster, Defense-Kevin Myers, Specialty-Levi Slager, EPEP-Mike Klobucher
Sept. 4	at Ashland	Offense-Carlton Brewster, Defense-Jim Skodak, Specialty-Dan Boulter, EPEP-Ryan Kaul
Sept. 11	Hillsdale	Offense-Ryan Kaul, Defense-Mike Klobucher, Specialty-Cory Strader, EPEP-Jason Davis
Sept. 18	at Indianapolis	Offense-Ryan Kaul, Defense-Rob Mida, Specialty-Matt Desmarais, EPEP-Andrew Terry
Sept. 25	at Mercyhurst	Offense-Andrew Terry, Defense-Whitney Bell, Specialty-Ben Keur, EPEP-Jereld Sawyer
Oct. 2	Findlay	
Oct. 9	at North Dakota	
Oct. 16	at Northern Michigan	
Oct. 23	Michigan Tech	
Oct. 30	at Northwood	
Nov. 6	Saginaw Valley State	

Home games listed in bold

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*GLIAC Game
All Times are Eastern

