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For immediate release

Grand Valley State's Melissa Sneller Named 2004 GLIAC Women's Golf "Athlete of the Year"

Ferris State's McKinnon Earns "Freshman of the Year" Honors, GVSU's Stinson Named "Coach of the Year"

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University junior **Melissa Sneller** was named the 2004 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Women's Golf "Athlete of the Year." Ferris State University's **Casey McKinnon** earned the conference's "Freshman of the Year" title, while Grand Valley State's **Lori Stinson** was tabbed "Coach of the Year."

Sneller, a Zeeland, Michigan native, is a three-time first-team All-GLIAC honoree. She claimed the 2004 GLIAC Championship medalist honors by tallying a two-day total of 148 (74-74). Sneller finished in fourth place at the GLIAC Championships in 2003 and tied for second place as a freshman in 2002. She also won the individual title at the Northern Kentucky Invitational this season by shooting a two-round total of 148.

McKinnon currently ranks second on the team with a 82.29 stroke average (1,728 strokes in 21 rounds). She turned in a season-best first-place finish at the Findlay William "Bing" Beall Classic (9/28-29) with a season-leading 154 score and captured medalist honors in a one-hole playoff victory. McKinnon has registered five top 20 place performances this season, including three top five efforts. She garnered second-place kudos at the GLIAC Championship Tournament following a 158-stroke total while carding a 155 to claim third place at the Ashland Invitational.

Stinson, in her fifth season at Grand Valley State, led the Lakers to their second consecutive GLIAC Championship. The title was the third for GVSU in four years. Stinson has led the Lakers to the NCAA Division II Championships three times since she has been at the helm of the Lakers. Last season, Grand Valley finished fourth in the nation, finishing fifth in 2001-2002, and in 1999-2000, GVSU took sixth place nationally. Stinson was also named the GLIAC Women's Golf "Coach of the Year" in 2002.

Joining **Sneller** and **McKinnon** on the 2004 All-GLIAC First Team are: sophomores **Kristi Vienneau**, **Lauri Leatherman**, and **Melissa Reigle** of Grand Valley State; and freshman **Heidi Aittama** of Ferris State.

The All-GLIAC Second Team includes: senior **Ellie Saladin** and sophomore **Elena Robles** of Ferris State; junior **Shannon Briggs** of Grand Valley State; freshmen **Jamie Long** and **Sara McCullough**, and sophomore **Jamie Pettinga** of Northwood University.

A complete list of the 2004 All-GLIAC Women's Golf teams are on the following page.

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2004 GLIAC Women's Golf Postseason Awards

Player of the Year: Melissa Sneller - Grand Valley State University

Freshman of the Year: Casey McKinnon - Ferris State University

Coach of the Year: Lori Stinson - Grand Valley State University

2004 All-GLIAC Women's Golf Teams

First-Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Melissa Sneller	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Zeeland, Mich.
Kristi Vienneau	Grand Valley State	So.	Bathurst, New Brunswick
Casey McKinnon	Ferris State	Fr.	St. Ignace, Mich./LaSalle
Lauri Leatherman	Grand Valley State	So.	Caledonia, Mich.
Melissa Riegle	Grand Valley State	So.	Muncie, Ind./Yorktown
Heidi Aittama	Ferris State	Fr.	Livonia, Mich./Churchill

Second-Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Ellie Saladin	Ferris State	Sr.	Greenville, Mich.
Elena Robles	Ferris State	So.	Torrence, Calif./Redondo Union
Jamie Long	Northwood	Fr.	Swartz Creek, Mich.
Shannon Briggs	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Welland, Ontario/Notre Dame
Jamie Pettinga	Northwood	So.	Grosse Ile, Mich.
Sara McCullough	Northwood	Fr.	Swartz Creek, Mich.

* - All-GLIAC Women's Golf selections are based upon a player's stroke average in his 10 best rounds in league play, including the three rounds of the GLIAC Tournament. All ties are broken by total strokes in the GLIAC Tournament.