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For immediate release

Grand Valley State's Melissa Sneller Named 2005 GLIAC Women's Golf "Athlete of the Year"

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

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University senior **Melissa Sneller** was named the 2005 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Women's Golf "Athlete of the Year." Ferris State University's **Becky Hoffman** earned the conference's "Freshman of the Year" title, while Grand Valley State's **Lori Stinson** was tabbed "Coach of the Year."

Sneller, a two-time GLIAC Player of the Year, is a four-time first-team All-GLIAC honoree. She claimed her second GLIAC Championship individual title by tallying a two-round total of 147. Sneller finished fourth at the GLIAC Championships in 2003 and tied for second place as a freshman in 2002. Sneller claimed the first-ever NCAA Division II Women's Golf National Championship Individual title, finishing even par with a four round score of 292. Sneller was named to the All-Great Lakes Region Team and a National Golf Coaches Association First Team All-American.

Hoffman, a Gaines, Michigan native, averaged 79.10 strokes per round in 30 total rounds for the 2004-05 season. She compiled six top 10 finishes this season, including four top five performances. Hoffman turned in an 11th-place showing as a result of a 166 at the GLIAC Championships. She carded a team-leading ninth-place four-round 305-stroke score at the 2005 NCAA Division II National Championship. Hoffman was named to 2004-05 National Golf Coaches Association Division II All-America Honorable Mention.

Stinson, in her sixth season at Grand Valley, led the Lakers to their third straight GLIAC Championship title. Stinson guided the Lakers to a second place finish at the NCAA Division II National Championships, their highest finish in school history. She has led GVSU to the NCAA Division II Championships five times since she has been at the helm of the Lakers. Last season, Stinson was named the 2004 National Golf Coaches Association Division II Coach of the Year. Stinson has earned the GLIAC Coach of the Year award twice, in 2004 and 2002.

Joining **Sneller** and **Hoffman** on the 2005 All-GLIAC First Team are: junior **Elena Robles**, freshman **Missy Ward**, and sophomore **Casey McKinnon** of Ferris State; and junior **Kristi Vienneau**, of Grand Valley State.

The All-GLIAC Second Team includes: freshmen **Jamie Long** of Northwood University; freshman **Heidi Aittama** of Ferris State; senior **Shannon Briggs** and junior **Lauri Leatherman** of Grand Valley State; freshman **Cheryl Beech** of the University of Findlay; and junior **Maggie Slonkosky** of Ashland University.

A complete list of the 2005 All-GLIAC Women's Golf teams are on the following page.

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2005 GLIAC Women's Golf Postseason Awards

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

Freshman of the Year: Becky Hoffman - Ferris State University

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

2005 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	Sr.	Zeeland, Mich.
Elena Robles	Ferris State	Jr.	Torrence, Calif./Redondo Union
Becky Hoffman	Ferris State	Fr.	Gaines, Mich./Swartz Creek
Kristi Vienneau	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Bathurst, New Brunswick
Missy Ward	Ferris State	Fr.	Fenton, Mich./Linden
Casey McKinnon	Ferris State	So.	St. Ignace, Mich./LaSalle

Second-Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Jamie Long	Northwood	So.	Swartz Creek, Mich.
Heidi Aittama	Ferris State	So.	Livonia, Mich./Churchill
Laura Leatherman	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Caledonia, Mich.
Cheryl Beech	Findlay	Fr.	Mississauga, Ontario/Port Credit
Shannon Briggs	Grand Valley State	Sr.	Welland, Ontario/Notre Dame
Maggie Slonkosky	Ashland	Jr.	Minster, Ohio

Honorable Mention

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Katie Weisenberger	Findlay	So.	Continental, Ohio
Jamie Pettinga	Northwood	Jr.	Grosse Ile, Mich.
Hilary McCall	Mercyhurst	Jr.	Parker, Pa./Allegheny Clarion Valley
Kristy Homan	Findlay	Fr.	Maineville, Ohio/Kings
Sara McCullough	Northwood	So.	Swartz Creek, Mich.

* - All-GLIAC Women's Golf selections are based upon a player's stroke average in her 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.