

THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



Alex Spezia

**5-10 ♦ 192 ♦ Junior
Defenseman
Farmington Hills, Michigan**

2006-07: A skilled "defensive" defenseman . . . One of team's unsung heroes . . . Solid defensively and has the tenacity to matchup with the opposition's top forwards . . . Capable of generating scoring opportunities and handling the puck in transition . . . Relies on solid work ethic and comes prepared to play . . . Should continue receiving extensive ice time, particularly in even-strength and penalty-kill situations . . . Sound positional player . . . Can deliver the big hit but rarely strays into the penalty box.

2005-06: Appeared in 34 of FSU's 40 contests . . . Posted a career-high five points with all coming in CCHA play . . . Lone goal of the campaign was against Michigan (2/24) . . . Registered an assist on three occasions – versus Northern Michigan (12/9), at Bowling Green State (1/16), and against Western Michigan (2/4) . . . Notched a season-high plus/minus rating of +2 three times – vs. Bemidji State (11/18), vs. Northern Michigan (12/9), and against Michigan (2/24) . . . Took four shots in contests against Boston College (12/30) at the Wells Fargo Denver Cup and versus Lake Superior State (1/20) . . . Committed 11 penalties for 33 minutes.

2004-05: Completed in 37 games . . . Co-honoree of Ferris State's Blue Line Competitive Award . . . His four-points total was fifth best among Bulldog defensemen . . . All of his season's points came on assists with his first collegiate point coming at Bemidji State (10/23) and was a season-best +4 for the contest . . . Credited with a helper in home encounters against Bowling Green State (2/4) and Northern Michigan (2/26) . . . Assisted on the game winner in 5-2 triumph at Western Michigan (3/5) . . . Turned in a +3 plus/minus rating twice – versus Western Michigan (12/4) and at Wisconsin (1/1) in championship game of the Badger Hockey Showdown . . . Best month was February with two points (0-2-2) in six outings.

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Competed last two junior-level seasons (2002-04) with the United States Hockey League's (USHL) Chicago (Ill.) Steel . . . Coached by Wil Nichol . . . Recorded a team eighth-place 24 points with six goals and 18 assists to go along with a +11 efficiency rating in 58 outings for the 2003-04 season . . . Helped the Steel capture the USHL's East Division Regular-Season title in 2003-04 with a 34-22-4 mark . . . Scored a goal and added five assists for six points and was +3 in 55 games for 2002-03 season . . . Graduated in 2003 from Stevenson High School in Buffalo Grove, Ill.

PERSONAL: Son of Gerald and Linda Spezia . . . Born 3/22/85 in Detroit, Mich. . . Father is employed as an engineer and mother is a housewife . . . Has an older brother and sister . . . Nickname is "Spez" . . . Hobbies include hunting and fishing . . . Shoots: Right . . . FSU Letters: Two . . . Majoring in operations supply management.

CAREER STATISTICS

CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2004-05	37	0	4	4	-1	0	0	0	17/34	
2005-06	34	1	4	5	+3	0	0	0	11/33	
TOTALS	71	1	8	9	+2	0	0	0	28/67	

CCHA

YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM
2004-05	28	0	3	3	-3	0	0	0	14/28
2005-06	28	1	4	5	+2	0	0	0	10/31
TOTALS	56	1	7	8	-1	0	0	0	24/59

CAREER BESTS

Goals (Game): 1 (2/24/06 vs. Michigan)
Assists (Game): 1 (eight times, last 2/24/06 vs. Michigan)
Points (Game): 2 (five times, last 2/24/06 vs. Michigan)

THE SPEZIA FILE

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:
Whatever you do, do it well

MY PREGAME RITUAL:
Sleeping

IF I COULD MEET ANYONE IN HISTORY:
Jim Morrison

WHAT MOTIVATES ME?:
Getting good grades

ADVICE I WOULD GIVE TO YOUNGSTERS:
Don't give up

IF I HAD ONE WISH, I WOULD:
Play in the NHL

MY BEST NON-ATHLETIC TALENT:
Pool

ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:
Funny

WHY I CHOSE FERRIS STATE:
Hockey and the school

FAVORITE NHL TEAM/PLAYER:
Detroit Red Wings/Niklaus Lidstrom

THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF PLAYING HOCKEY:
Playing short-handed

DESIRED OCCUPATION (OTHER THAN HOCKEY PLAYER):
Professional poker player

FAVORITE SPORT (OTHER THAN HOCKEY):
Baseball

IF I COULD BE ON THE COVER OF A MAGAZINE:
Sports Illustrated

THE PLANET I'M MOST FASCINATED WITH:
Saturn



BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Nebraska-Omaha	4 GP, 0-0=0
Alaska	4 GP, 0-0=0	Northern Michigan	6 GP, 0-2=2
Bowling Green State	4 GP, 0-2=2	Notre Dame	4 GP, 0-0=0
Lake Superior State	6 GP, 0-0=0	Ohio State	9 GP, 0-0=0
Massachusetts	0 GP	Union	0 GP
Mercyhurst	2 GP, 0-0=0	Wayne State	0 GP
Miami (Ohio)	6 GP, 0-0=0	Western Michigan	8 GP, 0-2=2
Michigan	4 GP, 1-1=2		
Michigan State	4 GP, 0-0=0		
Minnesota	0 GP		
		POSTSEASON	
		CCHA Tournament	3 GP, 0-0=0



THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



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Joe Van Culin

5-10 ♦ 176 ♦ Senior
Defenseman
Monticello, Minnesota

2006-07: An experienced defender . . . One of team's best skating defenseman . . . Emerged as one of team's leaders . . . Excellent defender and is also capable of being an offensive contributor . . . Effective specialty-teams skater . . . Team-oriented . . . Plays with a lot of passion.

2005-06: Skated in 36 of team's 40 games . . . Compiled six points and was plus nine for the season . . . FSU Dean's Academic Award honoree . . . Lone marker represented the game-winner versus Western Michigan (2/4) . . . Had three points (0-3=3) in a four-game span (2/25-3/10) . . . Notched an assist apiece against Michigan twice (2/25 and 3/10).

2004-05: Participated in all 39 contests . . . Ferris' CCHA Scholar-Athlete of the Year Nominee and FSU Dean's Academic Award winner . . . Produced a career-best 11 points to rank 10th in team scoring and was the Bulldogs' second-highest scoring defenseman . . . Shared top squad honors with three game-winning helpers . . . Posted a season-high two points (1-1=2) against Connecticut (11/12), which included the game-winner . . . Started season with an assist apiece in Colgate (10/8-9) series . . . Scored a power-play marker at Western Michigan (12/3) and tallied against Northern Michigan (2/25) . . . Tallied a season-best three points in six November encounters (1-2=3) and again in five December contests (1-2=3).

2003-04: Saw ice time in 20 games, including the season's final 12 outings . . . Scored at Michigan State (3/12) in CCHA Tourney's First-Round Series opening contest . . . Credited with an assist at Bowling Green State (12/5) and at Nebraska-Omaha (1/7).

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Competed for the Wichita Falls (Texas) Rustlers of the America West Hockey League in 2002-03 under coach Brian Meisner . . . A second-team all-AWHL selection in 2002-03 . . . Tallied 13 goals with 22 assists for 35 points to rank fifth among the AWHL's scoring defensemen . . . Recipient of team's United Regional Health Care System Community Service Award for community involvement . . . Captained a USA

Team which toured in Prague, Czech Republic . . . Started 2001-02 season for the Northwest Wisconsin Knights of the Minnesota Junior Hockey League and had 60 points (21-39=60) in 30 games . . . Completed campaign with the Springfield Spirit, recording 10 points (5-5=10) in 21 contests . . . Had 94 points (39-55=94) in 2000-01 with Northwest Wisconsin Knights and was the league's Player of the Month . . . A 2000 graduate of Monticello High School . . . Prepped by Dan Germundson . . . Concluded prep career as school's all-time leading scorer . . . Four-time all-league pick . . . Two-time all-conference football pick . . . Three-time all-conference baseball performer.

PERSONAL: Born 6/12/82 in Monticello, Minn. . . Son of Duane and Roxane Van Culin . . . Father works as a control room operator and mother is a therapist . . . Has two younger brothers and a sister . . . Nickname is "Joey V" . . . Enjoys sports, wakeboarding, hunting and fishing . . . Shoots: left . . . FSU Letters: Three . . . Accountancy major.

CAREER STATISTICS

CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2003-04	20	1	2	3	+4	0	0	0	7/14	
2004-05	39	3	8	11	-3	1	0	1	20/40	
2005-06	36	1	5	6	+9	0	0	1	16/32	
TOTALS	95	5	15	20+10	1	0	2	43/86		

CCHA

YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM
2003-04	16	0	2	2	+6	0	0	0	7/14
2004-05	28	2	2	4	-4	1	0	0	15/30
2005-06	24	1	2	3	+2	0	0	1	8/16
TOTALS	68	3	6	9	+4	1	0	1	30/60

CAREER BESTS

Goals (Game): 1 (five times, last 2/4/06 vs. Western Michigan)
Assists (Game): 1 (15 times, last 3/10/06 at Michigan)
Points (Game): 2 (11/12/04 vs. Connecticut)

THE VAN CULIN FILE

WHY I CHOSE FERRIS STATE:

The guys on the team

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:

What you see is what you get

FAVORITE NHL TEAM:

New Jersey Devils

ADVICE I WOULD GIVE YOUNGSTERS:

Never give up and work hard!

MY PREGAME RITUAL:

Eating a bowl of Fruity Pebbles

THE PLANET I'M MOST FASCINATED WITH:

Saturn

ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:

Athletic

THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF HOCKEY:

Maintaining your composure all of the time

IF I COULD BE ON THE COVER OF A MAGAZINE:

Sports Illustrated

IF I WAS A MILLIONAIRE, I WOULD:

Share the wealth with my family

IF I COULD MEET ANYONE IN HISTORY:

Ted Williams

ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY I COULD HAVE WITNESSED:

The Civil War Battle at Gettysburg

DESIRED OCCUPATION (OTHER THAN HOCKEY PLAYER):

Professional Baseball Player or a coach

MY BEST NON-ATHLETIC TALENT:

Sewing

SOMETHING UNUSUAL ABOUT ME:

My grandmother taught me to skate



BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Nebraska-Omaha	4 GP, 0-1=1
Alaska	4 GP, 0-1=1	Northern Michigan	6 GP, 1-0=1
Bowling Green State	6 GP, 0-2=2	Notre Dame	6 GP, 0-0=0
Lake Superior State	8 GP, 0-0=0	Ohio State	13 GP, 0-2=2
Massachusetts	0 GP	Union	0 GP
Mercyhurst	2 GP, 0-0=0	Wayne State	0 GP
Miami (Ohio)	8 GP, 0-1=1	Western Michigan	10 GP, 2-0=2
Michigan	6 GP, 0-2=2		
Michigan State	6 GP, 1-0=1		
Minnesota	0 GP		

POSTSEASON

CCHA Tournament 9 GP, 1-3=4



THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



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Matt Verdone

6-0 ♦ 200 ♦ Senior
Left Wing
Summerstown, Ontario

2006-07: Fastest skater on the team . . . Works hard at both ends of the ice . . . Has improved each season . . . Will receive ample playing time on the power play and penalty kill . . . Takes the puck to the net well and is a strong finisher . . . Size-speed combination makes him a scoring threat.

2005-06: Played in 38 of 40 contests . . . Tallied a career-best 23 points which was fifth highest on the team . . . Placed third in goal-scoring with 15 lamplighters . . . Shared top honors with three multi-goal games . . . Scored four times in 5-2 triumph over Army (10/15) in Mutual of Omaha Maverick Stampede's Third-Place contest, which included a short-hander and the game-winner . . . Named to Mutual of Omaha Maverick Stampede All-Tournament Team . . . Posted three-point outings (2-1=3) at Lake Superior State (10/21) and at Bowling Green State (1/16) . . . Recorded seven points (6-1=7) in five October games.

2004-05: Tri-winner of FSU's Most Improved Player Award . . . A Ferris State Dean's Academic Award recipient . . . Registered a career-high 15 points (7-8=15) in 39 games . . . Placed eighth among the team's scoring leaders . . . Scored goals in six different contests, including a two-tally outing at Alaska Fairbanks (1/21) . . . Recorded other multiple-point game (1-1=2) in season opener versus Colgate (10/8) . . . Paced the Bulldogs with three game-winning goals – vs. Connecticut (11/13), at Miami (12/11), and at Notre Dame (2/11) on a short-hander with 53 seconds remaining in the contest . . . Posted a lamplighter apiece in series at Notre Dame (2/11-12) . . . Recorded a season high four points in eight October (1-3=4) appearances and in nine January (2-2=4) encounters.

2003-04: Appeared in 27 contests . . . Produced first goal at Nebraska-Omaha (1/7) . . . Recorded an assist apiece in against Niagara (11/29), Miami (1/17), Western Michigan (1/30) and Lake Superior State (2/27) . . .

Picked up an assist vs. Massachusetts-Lowell (12/27) in opener of the Badger Hockey Showdown Tourney . . . Compiled four points (1-3=4) in six-game span . . . Best month was January with three points (1-2=3) in six games.

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Skated four seasons (1999-03) with the Cornwall Colts of the Central Junior A Hockey League . . . Coached by Al Wagar . . . Ranked second among 2002-03 team and league scoring leaders with 110 points (39-71=110) in 55 contests . . . Received CJHL Awards for sportsmanship and outstanding graduated player in final junior season . . . Helped guide Cornwall to its second straight CJHL title in 2000-01 and the 2000 CJHL/Eastern Canadian Championship crown . . . Posted 76 points (39-37=76) in 54 games during 2001-02 campaign . . . Graduated in 2000 from St. Joseph Secondary School in Cornwall, Ontario.

PERSONAL: Son of Sebastian and Lucy Verdone . . . Born 2/18/83 in Cornwall, Ontario . . . Father works as a mill wright . . . Has an older sister (Melissa) . . . Interests include hunting, fishing and muscle cars . . . Shoots: left . . . FSU Letters: Three . . . Majoring in criminal justice.

CAREER STATISTICS

CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2003-04	27	1	5	6	0	0	0	0	9/21	
2004-05	39	7	8	15	-4	1	1	3	17/34	
2005-06	38	15	8	23	-3	7	1	1	20/59	
TOTALS	104	23	41	44	-7	8	2	4	46/114	

CCHA										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2003-04	19	1	3	4	-1	0	0	0	7/14	
2004-05	28	5	4	9	-8	1	1	2	13/26	
2005-06	28	9	7	16	-5	5	0	0	13/34	
TOTALS	75	15	14	29	-14	6	1	2	33/74	

CAREER BESTS

Goals (Game): 4 (10/15/05 vs. Army)
Assists (Game): 1 (21 times, last 3/3/06 vs. Ohio State)
Points (Game): 4 (10/15/05 vs. Army)

BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Nebraska-Omaha	7 GP, 2-0=2
Alaska	5 GP, 2-1=3	Northern Michigan	8 GP, 1-0=1
Bowling Green State	6 GP, 2-2=4	Notre Dame	6 GP, 2-1=3
Lake Superior State	8 GP, 3-2=5	Ohio State	12 GP, 0-3=3
Massachusetts	0 GP	Union	0 GP
Mercyhurst	0 GP	Wayne State	0 GP
Miami (Ohio)	8 GP, 1-2=3	Western Michigan	12 GP, 1-3=4
Michigan	6 GP, 2-0=2		
Michigan State	6 GP, 0-1=1		
Minnesota	0 GP		
		POSTSEASON	
		CCHA Tournament	7 GP, 2-1=3

THE VERDONE FILE

WHY I CHOSE FERRIS STATE:

Small town

WHAT MOTIVATES ME?:

People telling me I can't

FAVORITE NHL TEAM/PLAYER:

Montreal Canadiens/Alex Kovalev

GREATEST LESSON I'VE LEARNED PLAYING HOCKEY:

Patience

ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:

Hardnosed

IF I COULD BE ON THE COVER OF A MAGAZINE:

Ontario Outdoors or Ducks Unlimited

MY BEST NON-ATHLETIC TALENT:

Hunting

ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY I WISH

I COULD HAVE WITNESSED:

Any of the Montreal Canadiens' Stanley Cup Wins

IF I WAS A MILLIONAIRE, I WOULD:

Buy a 1968 RS/SS Camaro

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION IS:

My boat and my dog (Chevy)

THE BEST PART ABOUT PLAYING IN OUR HOCKEY ARENA:

The fans

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:

Today's preparation is tomorrow's performance

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING

I'VE LEARNED AT FSU IS:

If you work hard, good things will happen

THE PLANET I'M MOST FASCINATED WITH:

Mars

FAVORITE SPORT (OTHER THAN HOCKEY):

Hunting and Fishing



FERRIS STATE
HOCKEY

FERRIS STATE HOCKEY

THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



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Eric Vesely

5-11 ♦ 174 ♦ Senior
Left Wing
Woodstock, Illinois

2006-07: An excellent two-way forward, particularly in the defensive zone . . . Expected to receive a considerable amount of ice time . . . Consistency is his strength . . . Plays a physical brand of hockey . . . Versatile . . . Strong skater . . . Effective in penalty-kill situations.

2005-06: Appeared in all 40 outings . . . Placed seventh among team's leading point getters with career-high 18 points . . . Received team's Scholar-Athlete Award for the second straight year . . . Had a team-best +11 to attain squad's Plus/Minus Award . . . Two-time (2004-05 and 2005-06) recipient of FSU President's Award for team's highest grade point average and FSU Dean's Academic Award winner for second consecutive season . . . Garnered a pair of two-point games at Mercyhurst (11/25) and against Lake Superior State (1/21) . . . Had two helpers vs. Lake Superior State (1/21) . . . Ranked second on squad with two game-winning markers – vs. Bowling Green State (10/29) and at Western Michigan (11/11) . . . Netted a short-handed goal at Mercyhurst (11/25) . . . Closed out season with a goal apiece at Michigan (3/10-11) in CCHA Tournament Quarterfinals . . . Racked up five points (2-3=5) in nine November games and matched that output in February (3-2=5) over an eight-game stretch.

2004-05: Saw ice time in 32 of the squad's 39 games . . . Posted a team-high tying +6 efficiency rating to be a co-honoree of FSU's Plus/Minus Award . . . Totaled a season-best two points (1-1=2) and was +3 against Bowling Green State (2/4) . . . Tallied his other lamp-lighter of the campaign in the series' finale (2/5) with Bowling Green State . . . All of his three points for the season occurred in February.

2003-04: Participated in 11 contests . . . Turned in a three-point (1-2=3) game performance in 7-5 decision over Alaska Fairbanks (1/2) to earn CCHA Rookie of the Week honors (1/5) . . . Attained other season's point with an assist in 3-1 victory at Colgate (10/18) . . . Played in four of the Bulldogs' final 14 contests.

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Spent 2001-02 and 2002-03 with the defunct Topeka (Kan.) ScareCrows of the United States Hockey League . . . Coached by Bliss Littler . . . Produced 29 points (12-17=29) in 2002-03 as the ScareCrows placed second in the USHL's West Division (36-17-7 overall) . . . Served as team co-captain in final junior campaign . . . Posted 15 goals with 32 assists for 47 points in 60 2001-02 contests . . . Played in 2000-01 for the Chicago (Ill.) Freeze, contributing 19 goals and assists each for 38 points . . . A 2000 graduate of Woodstock High School . . . Coached by former Ferris player and assistant coach Larry Pedrie.

PERSONAL: Born 2/13/82 in Elgin, Ill. . . Son of Glenn and Linda Vesely . . . Father is an architect/engineer while his mother is an office manager . . . One of five children (two brothers and sisters apiece) . . . Shoots: left . . . Nickname is "Ves" . . . Hobbies include cards, video games, baseball and football . . . FSU Letters: Three . . . Surveying engineering major.

CAREER STATISTICS

CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN	PIM
2003-04	11	1	3	4	-3	0	0	0	0	9/18
2004-05	32	2	1	3	+6	0	0	0	0	9/18
2005-06	40	10	8	18	+11	2	1	2	2	13/26
TOTALS	83	13	12	25	+14	2	1	2	2	31/62

CCHA

YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN	PIM
2003-04	7	1	2	3	-4	0	0	0	0	7/14
2004-05	23	2	1	3	+4	0	0	0	0	5/10
2005-06	28	6	5	11	+2	2	0	2	2	9/18
TOTALS	58	9	8	17	+2	2	0	2	2	21/42

CAREER BESTS

Goals (Game): 1 (13 times, last 3/11/06 at Michigan)
Assists (Game): 2 (twice, last 1/21/06 vs. Lake Superior State)
Points (Game): 3 (1/2/04 vs. Alaska Fairbanks)

THE VESELY FILE

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:
Work ethic will take you where you want to go

FAVORITE NHL PLAYER:
Joe Sakic

ADVICE I WOULD GIVE YOUNGSTERS:
Never give up on your dream

IF I COULD BE ON THE COVER OF A MAGAZINE:
Sports Illustrated

WHAT MOTIVATES ME?:
Winning

ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:
Hardworker

IF I WAS A MILLIONAIRE, I WOULD:
Invest in real estate

MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT HOCKEY IS:
The action

ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY I COULD HAVE WITNESSED:
Chicago Cubs winning the World Series

DESIRED OCCUPATION (OTHER THAN HOCKEY PLAYER):
Surveyor

FAVORITE SPORT (OTHER THAN HOCKEY):
Baseball

WHY I CHOSE FERRIS STATE:
Surveying Engineering program and hockey team

IN 20 YEARS, I WOULD LIKE TO BE:
Married and have children

IF I COULD MEET ANYONE IN HISTORY:
John F. Kennedy

IF I HAD ONE WISH, I WOULD:
Have better hands



BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Nebraska-Omaha	6 GP, 0-0=0
Alaska	6 GP, 1-3=4	Northern Michigan	6 GP, 0-0=0
Bowling Green State	4 GP, 4-1=5	Notre Dame	5 GP, 1-0=1
Lake Superior State	5 GP, 0-2=2	Ohio State	10 GP, 0-1=1
Massachusetts	0 GP	Union	0 GP
Mercyhurst	2 GP, 1-2=3	Wayne State	0 GP
Miami (Ohio)	6 GP, 0-0=0	Western Michigan	8 GP, 2-1=3
Michigan	5 GP, 3-0=3		
Michigan State	4 GP, 0-0=0	POSTSEASON	
Minnesota	0 GP	CCHA Tournament	7 GP, 2-0=2



THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



32

Adam Welch

6-3 ♦ 214 ♦ Junior
 Defenseman
 Hastings, Minnesota

2006-07: Returns as team captain . . . Mature individual with excellent leadership qualities . . . Regarded as the team's best "defensive" defenseman . . . One of CCHA's most underrated defenders . . . Uses size and strength to his advantage . . . Commendable work ethic . . . Extremely team-oriented player . . . Plays with a lot of heart . . . Intelligent decision-maker with the puck . . . Fine passer and excels on breakout passes . . . Teammate of current Ferris State defenseman Joe Van Culin in the junior ranks . . . A former walk-on.

2005-06: Appeared in all 40 outings . . . FSU Blue Line Competitive Award co-winner . . . His 13 points tied for 10th place among Bulldogs' top points producers and was second highest for defensemen . . . Produced a two-point game (0-2=2) versus Bemidji State (11/18) and (1-1=2) at Ohio State (2/18) . . . Had a three-game (2/3-10) point string with three points (1-2=3) in that span . . . Tallied three points (0-3=3) in a non-league series against Bemidji State (11/18-19) . . . Scored a power-play marker at Notre Dame (2/10) . . . Finished fourth on team's plus/minus leaders with a +8 rating . . . Posted five points (2-3=5) in eight February encounters.

2004-05: A CCHA All-Rookie Honorable Mention selection . . . FSU's Rookie of the Year Award winner . . . Registered six points in 36 outings which tied for top team scoring honors among Ferris freshmen defensemen . . . Selected CCHA's Rookie of the Week (12/13) after scoring his first collegiate goal and was +4 at Miami (12/10-11) . . . Notched an assist apiece in two-game series at Alaska Fairbanks (1/21-22) . . . Recorded an assist at Ohio State (1/8), vs. Bowling Green State (2/4), and at Notre Dame (2/11) . . . Compiled a season-high three points (0-3=3) in nine January contests.

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Spent two seasons (2002-04) with the Wichita Falls (Texas) Rustlers of the North American Hockey League . . . Coached by Brian Meisner . . . Team's MVP and Best Defensive Player in 2003-04 following a 39-point total (14-25=39) in 55 contests . . . Named Rustlers' Rookie of the Year in 2002-03 after totaling 34 points in 60 outings . . . A 2002 Hastings High School graduate . . . Coached by his uncle (Russ Welch) . . . Tallied game-winning overtime goal in state tourney as a sophomore . . . Nine-time prep letterwinner . . . Participated three years (2000-02) each in football and baseball . . . Served as team captain of his school's state championship football team as a senior and recorded three pass interceptions in state championship contest.

PERSONAL: Son of Kurt and Diana Welch . . . Born 10/4/83 in Hastings, Minn. . . . Has an older brother and sister . . . His cousin, Dan Welch, plays for the American Hockey League's Manchester Monarchs . . . Likes to play cards, work out and all sports . . . Shoots: Right . . . FSU Letters: Two . . . Majoring in history education.

CAREER STATISTICS

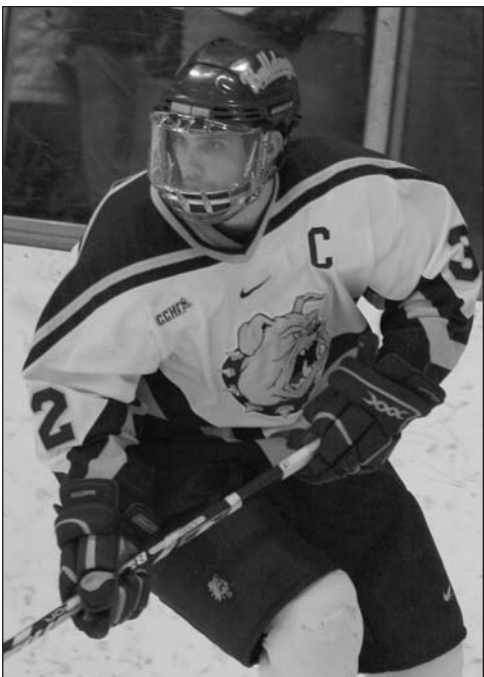
CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2004-05	36	1	5	6	0	0	0	0	15/30	
2005-06	40	2	11	13	+8	2	0	0	16/32	
TOTALS	76	3	16	19	+8	2	0	0	31/62	

CCHA										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2004-05	27	1	5	6	-3	0	0	0	10/20	
2005-06	28	2	5	7	0	2	0	0	8/16	
TOTALS	55	3	10	13	-3	2	0	0	18/36	

CAREER BESTS
Goals (Game): 1 (three times, last 2/18/06 at Ohio State)
Assists (Game): 2 (11/18/05 vs. Bemidji State)
Points (Game): 2 (twice, last 2/18/06 at Ohio State)

THE WELCH FILE

- WHAT I'M MOST THANKFUL FOR:**
An opportunity
- THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:**
Live everyday like you want to
- FAVORITE NHL TEAM:**
Detroit Red Wings
- ADVICE I WOULD GIVE YOUNGSTERS:**
Never fake the funk on a nasty dunk
- MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT HOCKEY:**
My teammates
- WHAT MOTIVATES ME?:**
Doubters
- ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:**
Easy going
- IF I COULD MEET ANYONE IN HISTORY:**
George Washington
- IF I WAS A MILLIONAIRE, I WOULD:**
Still graduate to be a teacher
- ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY I COULD HAVE WITNESSED:**
Miracle On Ice – 1980 USA Olympic Hockey Team
- DESIRED OCCUPATION (OTHER THAN HOCKEY PLAYER):**
Teacher
- FAVORITE SPORT (OTHER THAN HOCKEY):**
Football
- MY PREGAME RITUAL:**
To do whatever feels right that day
- GREATEST LESSON LEARNED PLAYING HOCKEY:**
Hardwork never fails
- THE PLANET I'M MOST FASCINATED WITH:**
Mars



BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Northern Michigan	6 GP, 0-1=1
Alaska	4 GP, 0-2=2	Notre Dame	4 GP, 1-1=2
Bowling Green State	4 GP, 0-1=1	Ohio State	10 GP, 1-3=4
Lake Superior State	6 GP, 0-1=1	Union	0 GP
Massachusetts	0 GP	Wayne State	0 GP
Mercyhurst	2 GP, 0-0=0	Western Michigan	8 GP, 0-2=2
Miami (Ohio)	6 GP, 1-0=1		
Michigan	6 GP, 0-1=1		
Michigan State	4 GP, 0-0=0		
Minnesota	0 GP		
Nebraska-Omaha	4 GP, 0-0=0		
		POSTSEASON	
		CCHA Tournament	7 GP, 0-2=2



THE 2006-07 BULLDOGS



10

Chris Zarb

**6-4 ♦ 215 ♦ Sophomore
Defenseman
Waterford, Michigan**

2006-07: Fine defender . . . Has excellent size and mobility . . . Has improved strength and conditioning tremendously . . . Sees the ice well . . . Good puck handler . . . Possesses an excellent shot and could enhance team's ability to generate offensive opportunities . . . Should receive ice time on the power play and penalty-kill units . . . Beginning to understand his role . . . Was drafted in the fifth round (144th overall) of the 2004 National Hockey League Entry Draft by the Philadelphia Flyers . . . Entered the draft ranked 37th by the NHL's Central Scouting Service and was the highest of the 29 United States Hockey League (USHL) skaters to be rated.

2005-06: Posted 10 points (all assists) while competing in 29 of team's 40 contests . . . Was third among Bulldog defensemen in scoring . . . Credited with two assists at Lake Superior State (10/21) and at Denver (12/31) . . . Absorbed 16 penalties for 35 minutes . . . Compiled single assists on six occasions – vs. Army (10/15), vs. Alaska Fairbanks (11/5), vs. Bemidji State (11/18), vs. Northern Michigan (12/9-10), and at Western Michigan (2/3) . . . Registered a season-best six shots on goal at Denver (12/31) and put three on net at Nebraska-Omaha (12/2) . . . Turned in a +2 efficiency rating at Lake Superior State (10/21) . . . Selected 11th among the nation's top incoming freshman defenders by *Inside College Hockey*.

HIGH SCHOOL/JUNIOR: Two-time USHL All-Star pick with the Tri-City Storm of Kearney, Neb. under coach Bliss Littler . . . Produced 23 points on nine goals and 13 assists in 48 games during the 2004-05 campaign . . . Compiled 24 points with four lampighters and 20 assists in 43 outings for the 2003-04 season . . . His 24-points total was 11th highest on the team and the second best among the squad's defensemen . . . Helped lead the Storm in 2003-04 to their first-ever Anderson Cup as the USHL regular-season champion as team went on to register a 43-12-5 overall mark . . . Earned a tryout with the World Junior Team and was one of two junior hockey players to receive an invitation . . . Featured on the cover of a *USA Junior Hockey Magazine* issue in spring 2004 . . . Played in 2002-03 season for Midget Majors' Little Caesars team under coach Bill Ciraulo . . . A 2003 graduate of Waterford (Mich.) Mott High School.

PERSONAL: Son of Bob and Donna Zarb . . . Born 1/11/85 in San Diego, Calif. . . . Father is a steel plant manager while his mother is employed as a salary representative at General Motors Corporation . . . Enjoys playing cards, tennis and golf . . . Nickname is "Mongo" . . . Shoots: Right . . . FSU Letters: One . . . Majoring in business administration.

CAREER STATISTICS

CAREER										
YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM	
2005-06	29	0	10	10	-10	0	0	0	16/35	
TOTALS	29	0	10	10	-10	0	0	0	16/35	

CCHA

YEAR	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PP	SH	GW	PN/PIM
2005-06	19	0	6	6	-9	0	0	0	12/27
TOTALS	19	0	6	6	9	0	0	0	12/27

CAREER BESTS

Goals (Game): 0
Assists (Game): 2 (twice, last 12/31/05 at Denver)
Points (Game): 2 (twice, last 12/31/05 at Denver)

BY THE NUMBERS AGAINST 2006-07 OPPONENTS

Alabama-Huntsville	0 GP	Nebraska-Omaha	2 GP, 0-0=0
Alaska	1 GP, 0-1=1	Northern Michigan	4 GP, 0-2=2
Bowling Green State	1 GP, 0-0=0	Notre Dame	1 GP, 0-0=0
Lake Superior State	2 GP, 0-2=2	Ohio State	4 GP, 0-0=0
Massachusetts	0 GP	Union	0 GP
Mercyhurst	0 GP	Wayne State	0 GP
Miami (Ohio)	1 GP, 0-0=0	Western Michigan	3 GP, 0-1=1
Michigan	3 GP, 0-0=0		
Michigan State	1 GP, 0-0=0	POSTSEASON	
Minnesota	0 GP	CCHA Tournament	4 GP, 0-0=0

THE ZARB FILE

WHAT MOTIVATES ME?:

The NHL

MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT HOCKEY:

The power play

WHY I CHOSE FERRIS STATE:

Close to home

MY PREGAME RITUAL:

Sleeping

IF I HAD ONE WISH, I WOULD:

Cure cancer

THE COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY I LIKE MOST:

Habitat for Humanity

GREATEST LESSON LEARNED PLAYING HOCKEY:

Defense

FAVORITE NHL TEAM/PLAYER:

Detroit Red Wings/Chris Pronger

ADVICE I WOULD GIVE TO YOUNGSTERS:

Never quit

ONE WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME:

Laid back

DESIRED OCCUPATION (OTHER THAN HOCKEY PLAYER):

Hockey Coach

WHAT I'M MOST THANKFUL FOR IS:

My family and FSU Volleyball Team

IF I WAS A MILLIONAIRE, I WOULD:

Have a sweet HDTV and recliner

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY:

Everything happens for a reason

THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF PLAYING HOCKEY:

Off-ice training

