

Hockey News

Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCAA WEST REGIONAL SEMIFINAL #1

NORTH DAKOTA VS. FERRIS STATE

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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2002-03 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT
10/5	Western Ontario#	W 9-5
10/11	St. Cloud State	L 1-2
10/12	St. Cloud State	W 6-3
10/18	Bowling Green State*	W 10-1
10/19	Bowling Green State*	W 5-1
10/25	at Notre Dame*	W 5-2
10/26	at Notre Dame*	W 4-1
11/1	at Alaska Fairbanks*	W 5-0
11/2	at Alaska Fairbanks*	W 5-1
11/8	Wayne State	W 4-1
11/9	Wayne State	L 4-5
11/15	Western Michigan*	W 6-3
11/16	at Western Michigan*	L 1-4
11/22	Ohio State*	W 4-2
11/23	Ohio State*	W 2-1 OT
12/6	Michigan State*	L 2-6
12/7	at Michigan State*	W 5-3
12/29	Alabama-Huntsville◆	L 4-5 OT
12/30	Connecticut◆	W 5-0
1/3	at Niagara	W 7-1
1/4	at Niagara	W 8-1
1/10	Notre Dame*	W 6-3
1/11	Notre Dame*	T 4-4 OT
1/17	Northern Michigan*	L 1-3
1/18	Northern Michigan*	W 5-1
1/24	at Miami (Ohio)*	L 3-6
1/25	at Miami (Ohio)*	W 4-2
1/31	at Michigan*	L 4-6
2/1	Michigan*	W 4-3
2/7	at Lake Superior State*	W 7-1
2/8	at Lake Superior State*	W 5-1
2/15	Western Michigan*	W 2-1
2/16	at Western Michigan*	W 5-3
2/28	Nebraska-Omaha*	W 5-0
3/1	Nebraska-Omaha*	W 4-0
3/7	at Bowling Green State*	W 4-2
3/8	at Bowling Green State*	W 4-3
3/14	Lake Superior State*	W 6-1
3/15	Lake Superior State*	W 6-1
3/20	Northern Michigan◆	W 4-2
3/21	Michigan◆	L 5-3
3/28	North Dakota◆	5:06 p.m.
3/29	TBD◆	5:06 p.m.
4/10	NCAA Frozen Four Semifinals★	12/6 p.m.
4/12	NCAA Frozen Four Championships★	7 p.m.

All times Eastern; home games in **bold**

* – Central Collegiate Hockey Association Game
– Exhibition

◆ – UConn Classic (Storrs, Conn.)

◆ – CCHA Tournament First Round

◆ – CCHA Super 6 Tournament

(Detroit, Mich. – Joe Louis Arena)

◆ – Minneapolis, Minn. (Mariucci Arena)

★ – Buffalo, N.Y. (HSBC Arena)

FERRIS STATE RECEIVES FIRST-EVER NCAA TOURNAMENT BID

THIS WEEK: The sixth-ranked Ferris State University men's ice hockey team will make its first-ever NCAA Division I Championship Tournament appearance this Friday (March 28) as the No.2 seeded Bulldogs face the No.3 seed the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux in the first of two NCAA West Regional semifinal contests in Minneapolis, Minn. Top seeded Minnesota hosts No. 4 Mercyhurst in Friday's second game beginning at 8:36 p.m. (EST). The two first-round winners will meet Saturday (March 29) in the regional championship contest.

FACEOFF/ARENA: Friday – 5:06 p.m. (EST)/Mariucci Arena (10,000); Saturday – 5:05 p.m. (EST) – regional championship game.

RADIO: WBRN (1460 AM) will be broadcasting the game live with play-by-play announcer Bob Hampson calling the action. **TELEVISION:** The game will be shown live on Ferris Cable Channel 7 (campus) and Channel 22 on the local Charter Cable Television.

THE RECORDS: Ferris State is 30-9-1 overall and placed first in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) with a 22-5-1 league record. The Bulldogs had their school-record 12-game winning streak snapped last Saturday (March 22) in the championship game of the CCHA Super 6 Tournament with a 5-3 loss to Michigan at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, Mich.

North Dakota has compiled a 26-11-5 overall mark and placed fourth in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) with a 14-9-5 league mark. UND lost a 2-1 decision to Minnesota-Duluth last Thursday (March 20) in the WCHA Final Five Tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn. The Fighting Sioux are making their 18th NCAA Tourney appearance this season following a one-year absence.

Minnesota is 24-8-9 overall and finished tied for second place in the WCHA with a 15-6-7 league ledger. The Golden Gophers captured the WCHA Final Five Championship Saturday (March 22) with a 4-2 triumph over nationally top-ranked Colorado College at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn. UM is the defending NCAA National Champions.

Mercyhurst is 22-12-2 overall and posted a 19-5-2 record in the Metro Atlantic Conference (MAAC). The Lakers, who won the MAAC Tourney with a 4-3 win over Quinnipiac last Sunday (March 23) at Army's Tate Rink in West Point, N.Y., are making their fifth NCAA Tourney appearance and second in the last three years.

BOB DANIELS: The sixth head coach in the program's history, Daniels is FSU's all-time winningest coach and was named the 2002-03 CCHA Coach of the Year.

THE COACHES: Ferris State – Bob Daniels (Michigan State, 1982), 11th season, 179-206-33 (.468) – (0-3-0 vs. North Dakota, 1-1-0 vs. Minnesota, 0-0-0 vs. Mercyhurst). **North**

Dakota – Dean Blais (Minnesota, 1977), 9th season, 232-106-30 (.671) – (3-0-0 vs. Ferris State). **Minnesota – Don Lucia** (Notre Dame, 1981), 4th season, 103-48-17 (.664) – (1-0-0 vs. Ferris State). **Mercyhurst – Ron Gotkin** (Brockport State, 1982), 15th season, 278-154-26 (.635) – (0-0-0 vs. Ferris State).

SERIES INFORMATION: North Dakota – UND leads 5-0-0 and won 6-3 over FSU in the Pepsi College Hockey Tourney Championship game (12/28/97). **Minnesota – Tied** at 1-1-0 with UM posting a 3-2 win against Ferris in the opening round (12/28/01) of the Dodge Mariucci Classic. **Mercyhurst – No** meetings.

The Best Season Ever – Ferris State's 30-9-1 overall record represents the best mark ever in the program's history at the NCAA-I level. The 1979-80 squad under Rick Duffett compiled a 26-11-1 overall record (11-9-0 CCHA – 3rd place), which marked the Bulldogs' first campaign as a member of the CCHA.

CCHA Champions – Ferris State claimed its first-ever CCHA Regular-Season Championship title this season with a first-place 22-5-1 league record. The Bulldogs accumulated 45 league points and outdistanced second-place Michigan (39 league points) by six league points. Prior to the 2002-03, Ferris' highest CCHA placing was third in 1990-91 when the Bulldogs finished 15-12-5 in the CCHA and 23-14-5 overall under former head coach and current Edmonton Oilers scout Bob Mancini. FSU also recorded back-to-back third-place CCHA finishes in the 1979-80 (11-9-0) and 1980-81 (13-9-0) seasons.

– more –

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2002-03 CCHA STANDINGS



	CONFERENCE					OVERALL						
	GP	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	W	L	T	GF	GA
1. Ferris State	28	22	5	1	45	121	64	30	9	1	167	89
2. Michigan	28	18	7	3	39	111	72	26	9	2	149	93
3. Ohio State	28	16	8	4	36	90	63	23	12	5	122	92
4. Michigan State	28	17	10	1	35	113	83	21	14	2	140	116
5. Northern Michigan	28	14	13	1	29	91	83	20	17	2	130	113
6. Miami (Ohio)	28	13	12	3	29	86	66	20	15	3	128	93
Notre Dame	28	13	12	3	29	90	90	15	16	6	114	119
8. Western Michigan	28	13	14	1	27	92	101	15	19	2	115	133
9. Alaska Fairbanks	28	10	11	7	27	78	104	15	12	7	109	116
10. Nebraska-Omaha	28	9	17	2	20	64	97	13	19	5	96	125
11. Bowling Green State	28	5	20	3	13	71	116	8	23	3	90	136
12. Lake Superior State	28	3	24	1	7	40	108	6	26	4	58	134

RESULTS LAST WEEK

CCHA Super 6 Tournament Quarterfinals

Thursday, March 20

#3 Ohio State 3, #7 Notre Dame 2

#5 Northern Michigan 7, #4 Michigan State 5

CCHA Super 6 Tournament Semifinals

Friday, March 21

#1 Ferris State 4, #5 Northern Michigan 2

#2 Michigan 3, #3 Ohio State 0

➤ **Hobey Baker Award Finalist** – Senior left wing **Chris Kunitz (Regina, Saskatchewan)** has been named among the top 10 finalists for the prestigious Hobey Baker Award with the winner being announced Friday, April 11, at 2:30 p.m. (EDT) from Buffalo, N.Y., the site of the 2003 NCAA Frozen Four championship tournament. A 25-member selection committee and fan vote (vote forhobey.com) will determine the winner. The group of elite hockey players was determined by a ballot of all 60 Division I college hockey coaches and fan vote. The Hobey Hat Trick of three finalists will be announced Wednesday, April 2. This marks the second straight year in which Ferris has had a top 10 Hobey Baker Award finalist as second-team All-American Rob Collins was among last season's elite group.

➤ **First 30-Win Club Members** – FSU owns the distinction of being the nation's first team this season to reach the 30-win plateau by virtue of its school-record 30-9-1 overall mark. Colorado College (29-6-5) ranks second in most single-season victories while Cornell (28-4-1) and fellow CCHA member Michigan (28-9-3) are tied for third place.

➤ **Brown Makes CCHA History!** – Sophomore goaltender **Mike Brown (Calgary, Alberta)** became the first CCHA player to win a weekly league award four consecutive weeks as a result of being selected the CCHA's Defensive Player of the Week. Brown, who received the weekly league award a record six times this season, was featured in the Faces In The Crowd section of the Nov. 23rd *Sports Illustrated* issue. The 2002-03 All-CCHA First-Team honoree is a two-time *U.S. College Hockey Online* Defensive Player of the Week selection (Nov. 5 and March 4).

➤ **Kunitz Sets Single-Season Mark** – **Chris Kunitz** recorded his career-high 74th point (33-41-74) this season with a first-period goal against Michigan in the CCHA Super 6 Tournament Championship game last Saturday (March 22) to set a new FSU single-season scoring mark. Kunitz surpassed Randy Merrifield's 73-point total (20-53-73) set in the 1983-84 campaign. The 2002-03

CCHA Super 6 Tournament Championship

Saturday, March 22

##5 Northern Michigan 4, #3 Ohio State 1

CCHA Super 6 Tournament Championship

Saturday, March 22

#2 Michigan 5, #1 Ferris State 3

All games played at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, Mich.

CCHA Player of the Year presently ranks second among the Bulldogs' career goal scorers with 97 tallies in 150 games and is within four markers of tying all-time leader Paul Lowden (1983-87; 101 goals in 158 games). He's currently eighth on Ferris' all-time points leaders list with 170 career points (97-73-170) and is two shy of tying Perry Zoldak (1976-81; 60-112-172) for seventh place.

➤ **Record-Setting Win Streak Snapped** – Ferris State had its school-record 12-game winning string snapped last Saturday with a 5-3 loss to Michigan in the CCHA Super 6 Tournament Championship game at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, Mich. The dozen wins eclipsed an 11-game win streak (1/6-2/28/78) set by the 1977-78 team while competing as a NAIA member. The Bulldogs' previous best at the Division I level was nine set in 1990-91. FSU started out this campaign winners of eight straight (10/12-11/8) after dropping its season opener to St. Cloud State (2-1) at home.

➤ **The "Big Three"** – FSU's top forward line of **Kunitz** (33-41-74), sophomore center **Jeff Legue** (23-35-58) and sophomore right wing **Derek Nesbitt** (18-31-49) have accounted for 39.6% (181-457) of the team's points production and 41.3% (74-179) of the squad's goal-scoring output this season.

➤ **Making His Mark In The Crease** – **Mike Brown**, who ranks second among FSU's all-time win leaders with a 39-22-1 career mark in 64 appearances, is three victories away from tying Rob Hughston (1981-85; 42-53-7) for top honors. He currently ranks first in career save percentage (.921) and is second behind Phil Osaer (1998-01; 2.18 GAA) in career goals against average (2.39). His 29-9-1 mark in 39 outings this season represents a new single-season school record.

➤ **Record-Setting Game Winners** – **Derek Nesbitt's** national-best nine game-winning goals represents a single-season school record, bettering the mark of seven by Steve Banonis (1980-81) and Rod Taylor (1990-91). Nesbitt has scored the game winner in six of the Bulldogs' last 11 contests to date.

2002-03 HONORS AND AWARDS

Hobey Baker Award Finalist

Chris Kunitz, F

CCHA Player of the Year

Chris Kunitz, F

CCHA Coach of the Year

Bob Daniels

CCHA All-Tournament Team

Chris Kunitz, F

Simon Mangos, D

All-CCHA First Team

Chris Kunitz, F▲

Mike Brown, G

All-CCHA Second Team

Jeff Legue, F

Troy Milam, D

Simon Mangos, D

CCHA All-Academic Team

Derrick McIver - first team▶

Nick Scheible - special mention

Bauer/CCHA All-Rookie Team

Jeremy Scherlinck - honorable mention

CCHA Perani Cup Champion

Mike Brown - 44 points

CCHA Defensive Player of the Week

Mike Brown - Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 25, March 3

Simon Mangos - Jan. 6

CCHA Offensive Player of the Week

Chris Kunitz - Oct. 21, 28, Feb. 3, March 3

Derek Nesbitt - Feb. 17

U.S. College Hockey Online's Defensive Player of the Week

Mike Brown - Nov. 5, March 4

U.S. College Hockey Online's Offensive Player of the Week

Chris Kunitz - Oct. 29, Feb. 4

Connecticut Classic All-Tourney Team

Chris Kunitz

▲ – 2001-02 First Team

▶ – 2001-02 Honorable Mention

➤ **Bulldogs Return To Mariucci Arena** – Ferris is making its second appearance to Minnesota's Mariucci Arena in the last two seasons as the Bulldogs participated in The Dodge Mariucci Classic (Dec. 28-29) during the 2001-02 campaign. Besides FSU and host Minnesota, the remainder of the four-team tourney field was comprised of Western Michigan and Providence. Ferris suffered a 3-2 setback to eventual 2001-02 NCAA Division I National Champion Minnesota in the tourney's opening round and then dropped a 6-3 non-league decision to fellow CCHA member Western Michigan in the consolation game.

➤ **Against The WCHA This Season** – FSU split a season-opening home series (Oct. 11-12) against St. Cloud State, losing 2-1 in the opener before notching a 6-3 victory over the Huskies.

2002-03 FERRIS STATE ROSTER

No.	NAME	Pos.	Yr.
2	Nick Scheible Big Rapids, Mich.	F	RFr.
5	Brett Smith Guelph, Ontario	F	Jr.
6	Troy Milam (C) Lake Orion, Mich.	D	Sr.
7	Greg Rallo Gurnee, Ill.	F	Fr.
8	Skip Renauld Regina, Saskatchewan	D	So.
9	Derrick McIver (A) Thunder Bay, Ontario	F	Jr.
11	Jeff Legue Cornwall, Ontario	F	So.
12	Matt York Woodhaven, Mich.	D	So.
14	Chris Kunitz (A) Regina, Saskatchewan	F	Sr.
16	Jamie Dunlap Nepean, Ontario	F	Fr.
17	Derek Nesbitt Edmondville, Ontario	F	So.
19	Trevor Large Brampton, Ontario	F	Jr.
20	Kevin Caudill Tustin, Calif.	F	Sr.
21	Carter Thomson Mildred, Saskatchewan	F	So.
22	Simon Mangos Caledon, Ontario	D	Jr.
24	Jeremy Scherlinck Grosse Pointe, Mich.	D	Fr.
25	Nick Field Jackson, Mich.	F	Sr.
26	Mike Kinnie Shelby Township, Mich.	F	So.
27	Phil Lewandowski Naperville, Ill.	F	Sr.
28	Phil Meyer Lansing, Mich.	D	Sr.
29	Tim Vokey Mississauga, Ontario	F	Fr.
30	Mike Brown Calgary, Alberta	G	So.
31	Matt Swanson Clinton Township, Mich.	G	Sr.
35	John DeCaro Marysville, Wash.	G	So.
41	Andrew Winnik Mississauga, Ontario	D	Fr.

Average Height: 6 feet, 0 inches

Average Weight: 184.7 pounds

Average Age: 21.3 years

Head Coach: Bob Daniels

Assistant Coach: Drew Famulak

Assistant Coach: Derek Lalonde

Volunteer Asst. Coach: Tim Blashill

Equipment Manager: Ben Mumah, E.M.,C.

Athletics Trainer: Tim Glover, ATC

FSU's RECORD WHEN ...

Playing at home	15-4-1
Playing on the road	14-3-0
Playing at neutral site	1-2-0
On Olympic-sized ice	2-0-0
On regulation-sized ice	28-9-1
Game 1 of a weekend series	13-6-0
Game 2 of a weekend series	16-2-1
Game 1 of a CCHA weekend series	10-4-0
Game 2 of a CCHA weekend series	12-1-1
Games following a win	22-7-1
Games following a loss	8-0-0
Games following a tie	0-1-0
The margin of victory is one goal	4-0-0
The margin of victory is two goals	6-0-0
The margin of victory is three or more goals	20-0-0
In overtime games	1-1-1
In games decided by one goal	4-3-0
In games decided by two goals	6-3-0
In games decided by three or more goals	20-3-0
Scoring first	23-2-0
The opponent scores first	7-7-1
Leading after one period	17-2-0
Trailing after one period	1-2-1
Tied after one period	12-4-0
Leading after two periods	26-0-0
Trailing after two periods	0-8-1
Tied after two periods	4-1-0
Outshooting its opponent	18-1-1
Being outshot by an opponent	11-6-0
Shots on goal are even	1-2-0
With fewer than 20 shots on goal	0-0-0
With 20-29 shots on goal	6-5-0
With 30-39 shots on goal	14-1-1
With 40 or more shots on goal	10-3-0
Scoring a power-play goal	19-7-1
Not scoring a power-play goal	11-2-0
Allowing a power-play goal	16-6-1
Not allowing a power-play goal	14-3-0
Scoring a short-handed goal	3-1-0
Allowing a short-handed goal	1-3-1
When FSU goalie makes fewer than 30 saves	17-5-1
When FSU goalie makes 30-39 saves	11-4-0
When FSU goalie makes 40-49 saves	2-0-0
When taking less penalties than opp.	13-5-1
When taking more penalties than opp.	16-3-0
When penalties are equal	1-1-0
Playing in TV games	5-3-0
When Chris Kunitz gets a point	27-6-1
When Chris Kunitz scores a goal	18-3-0
Versus CCHA Teams	24-6-1
Versus WCHA Teams	1-1-0
Versus CHA Teams	3-2-0
Versus Hockey East Teams	0-0-0
Versus ECAC Teams	0-0-0
Versus MAAC Teams	1-0-0
When wearing white jerseys	16-6-1
When wearing dark jerseys	14-3-0

MONTH-BY-MONTH RECORD ...

	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL	TOTAL
October	3-1-0	2-0-0	0-0-0	5-1-0
November	4-1-0	2-1-0	0-0-0	6-2-0
December	0-1-0	2-0-0	0-1-0	2-2-0
January	2-1-1	3-2-0	0-0-0	5-3-1
February	3-0-0	3-0-0	0-0-0	6-0-0
March	3-0-0	2-0-0	1-1-0	6-1-0
TOTAL	15-4-1	14-3-0	1-2-0	30-9-1

NEXT OPPONENT: The winners of Friday's (March 28) two NCAA Division I West Region First-Round contests will square off this Saturday (March 29) in the regional title game. The contest is scheduled for a 5 p.m. (EST) opening faceoff at the University of Minnesota's Mariucci Arena in Minneapolis, Minn. The regional title game winner will advance to the NCAA Frozen Four, which will be held Thursday, April 10 and Saturday, April 12 at the HSBC Arena in Buffalo, N.Y. The West Region winner will face the Midwest Region champion while the Northeast and East Region winners will go up against each other. Semifinal times for the two April 10 games are 12 p.m. (EST) and 6 p.m. (EST).

FSU Skates In CCHA Tourney Final – The Bulldogs' championship game appearance at last weekend's CCHA Super 6 Tournament marked the first time in 23 seasons that Ferris played in the title contest. The only other time the Bulldogs contended for a league tourney crown was in 1979-80 (3/14-15) against Northern Michigan in Marquette, Mich. NMU won the championship as a result of outscoring FSU 15-9 as the winner was determined by total goals. The Wildcats were victorious in both games – 7-3 and 8-6.

Bulldogs In 2003 Playoffs – Ferris has a 3-1 playoff record this season. The Bulldogs have outshot opponents by an average of 35.8 to 31.5, outscored the opposition by an average of 4.75 to 2.25. FSU has scored seven power-play goals in 23 tries (30.4%) while limiting its opponents to four goals in 22 power-play opportunities (18.2%). Sophomore center **Jeff Legue** and senior left wing **Chris Kunitz** lead the team in playoff scoring with 10 points (2-8-10) and nine points (5-4-9), respectively.

CCHA All-Tourney Team – **Chris Kunitz** (3-1-4) and junior defenseman **Simon Mangos** (1-1-2) were named to the six-member CCHA Super 6 Championship All-Tournament team.

Hot!, Hot!, Hot! ...

Of the 16 participating teams in the NCAA Tournament, Ferris State is tied for first as the hottest team over the past 15 games (13-2-0). Following is a look at the best records, in terms of wins, among the NCAA participants over the last 15 contests.

Rank	Team	Record
1.	Cornell	13-1-1
	FERRIS STATE	13-2-0
3.	Mercyhurst	12-3-0
4.	Minnesota	11-2-2
	Colorado College	11-4-0
6.	Michigan	10-3-2
	Wayne State	10-4-1
	Harvard	10-4-1
	Boston University	10-4-1
	Minnesota State, Mankato	10-3-2
11.	New Hampshire	9-3-3
	Boston College	9-5-1
13.	Ohio State	7-6-2
14.	Maine	6-7-2
	St. Cloud State	6-7-2
16.	North Dakota	5-8-2

CURRENT STREAKS ...

PLAYER	GAMES	G-A-P	STREAK
Chris Kunitz	4	5-4-9	Goals
Jeff Legue	4	2-8-10	Assists
Chris Kunitz	8	7-9-16	Points

NCAA STATISTICS ...

Following is where Ferris State ranks as a team and individually from the NCAA statistics, released on Monday (March 23):

CATEGORY	TEAM		
	RANK	No.	Avg.
Scoring Offense	2nd	179	4.48
Scoring Margin	2nd	+2.20	
Winning Pct.	3rd	30-9-1	.763
Scoring Defense	4th	91	2.28
Penalty Killing Pct.	7th	189-221	.855

INDIVIDUAL

NAME	CATEGORY	RANK	Avg./No.
Chris Kunitz	Points PG	2nd	1.85
	Assists PG	4th	1.03
	Goals PG	3rd	0.83
	GWG	8thT	5
Mike Brown	Win Pct.	4th	.756
	Save Pct.	4th	.926
	Goals Against	4th	2.23
Derek Nesbitt	GWG	1st	9
	Assists PG	14thT	0.88

