

Football News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 6, 2002

FERRIS STATE ANNOUNCES 2002 RECRUITING CLASS

Ferris State Targets Needs For Second Straight Year; Signs 21 Michigan Prep Seniors

Big Rapids, Mich. – Ferris State University football head coach **Jeff Pierce** and his staff announced today the signing of 21 high school student-athletes to national letters of intent to attend and play football at FSU.

The Bulldogs' primary recruiting focus was addressing the need for depth at the line of scrimmage on both sides of the football.

"I believe this (recruiting) class has the potential to be a strong class and provides us with the stability in the future to maintain a very competitive program," said Pierce, who will enter his eighth season at FSU this fall and has the highest winning percentage (.628 – 49-29-0) among all-time Bulldog coaches. "We focused on individuals who were competitive both in the classroom and on the field. We had over 40% of our recruits qualify for academic scholarships and the group's overall grade point average is 3.12."

Consisting of 12 individuals on offense and nine on defense, the Bulldogs' 21-member recruiting class was comprised exclusively of Michigan prep student-athletes.

"We were highly successful in getting the guys we identified as our top prospects," stated Pierce. "Like last year, we placed a great deal of emphasis on the offensive and defensive lines. We wanted to continue getting big guys on the line of scrimmage and needed to balance out the depth on our team.

"We concerned ourselves with the caliber of individuals in regards to their character, work ethic and commitment to the program. We sought out kids who will be at Ferris State for the long term and we're competitive on the field."

Comprising the majority of FSU recruits on offense were linemen as the seven-member group included **Mitchell DeVries (Kalamazoo/Central)**, **Allen Feigel (Livonia/Stevenson)**, **Robert Lukofsky (Livonia/Franklin)**, **Tim Pickens (Sterling Heights/Henry Ford II)**, **Chris Putra (Jackson/Lumen Christi)**, **Daniel Roth (Delton/Delton-Kellogg)** and **Kevin Teeple (Bancroft/Durand)**. The Bulldogs signed two wide receivers – **Brandis Bowie (Lansing/Sexton)** and **Matt Hohne (Jackson/Lumen Christi)**. Ferris also landed quarterback **Steve Fusee (Belmont/Rockford)**, tight end **Jimmy Bourdlais (Newberry)** and running back **Devon Mitchell (Troy)**.

Defensively, FSU signed four defensive linemen, three linebackers and two defensive backs. Linemen **Bob Cain (Stanwood/Morley-Stanwood)**, **Tony McGraw (Wyandotte/Roosevelt)**, **Quentin McKinley (Portage/Northern)** and **Jereld Sawyer (Sault Ste. Marie/Sault Area)** will team up with linebackers **Eric DeJules (Southgate/Anderson)**, **Michael Klobucher (Grand Haven/North Muskegon)** and **Brad Watson (Royal Oak/Kimball)**. The Bulldogs also added defensive backs **Chris Machalak (Clinton Township/Clintondale)** and **Dominic Thocher (Grand Rapids/Ottawa Hills)**.

Teeple and **Machalak** will both join their older brothers (Phil Teeple and Jason Machalak) as members of the 2002 Ferris State football team.

Pierce attributed the Bulldogs' successful attraction of top quality student-athletes to three primary factors.

"The great variety of academic programs with an impressive job placement rate, our football program's strong tradition and the overall upgrade in facilities like the Wheeler Pavilion and the new library (FLITE – Ferris Library For Information, Technology, and Education) all played an integral role," added Pierce.

The Bulldogs, six-time Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champions (1992-96, 99), concluded the 2001 season with a 7-4 overall record and were 7-3 (third place) in the conference.

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2002 FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL RECRUITS

NAME	Pos	Ht	Wt	HOMETOWN/HIGH SCHOOL	HEAD COACH
Jimmy Bourdlais	TE	6-5	240	Newberry/Newberry	Brandon Bruce
Brandis Bowie	WR	5-10	174	Lansing/Sexton	Bob Meyers
Bob Cain	DT	6-1	262	Stanwood/Morley-Stanwood	Brian Young
Eric DeJules	LB	6-0	190	Southgate/Anderson	John Rama
Mitchell DeVries	OL	6-2	274	Kalamazoo/Central	Bob Kubiak
Allen Feigel	OL	6-5	348	Livonia/Stevenson	Tim Gabel
Steve Fusee	QB	6-2	204	Belmont/Rockford	Ralph Munger
Matt Hohne	WR	5-10	160	Jackson/Lumen Christi	Herb Brogan
Michael Klobucher	LB	6-2	214	Grand Haven/North Muskegon	Dave Cooke
Robert Lukofsky	OL	6-3	274	Livonia/Franklin	Chris Kelbert
Chris Machalak	DB	6-0	194	Clinton Township/Clintondale	Jim Scarcelli
Tony McGraw	DT	6-1	255	Wyandotte/Roosevelt	Rod Baker
Quentin McKinley	DE	6-2	220	Portage/Northern	Peter Schermerhorn
Devon Mitchell	RB	6-1	190	Troy	Gary Griffith
Tim Pickens	OL	6-4	277	Sterling Heights/Henry Ford II	Butch Wagner
Chris Putra	OL	6-3	224	Jackson/Lumen Christi	Herb Brogan
Daniel Roth	OL	6-1	295	Delton/Delton-Kellogg	Rob Heethuis
Jereld Sawyer	DT	6-1	244	Sault Ste. Marie/Sault Area	Barry Pierson
Kevin Teeple	OL	6-7	257	Bancroft/Durand	Bill Altimore
Dominic Thocher	DB	6-0	176	Grand Rapids/Ottawa Hills	Jerry Dutcher
Brad Watson	LB	6-2	190	Royal Oak/Kimball	Terry Powers

